



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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CONTENTS

7 February 1991

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

ARAB AFRICA

Egypt

Saudi Foreign Minister Al-Faysal Visits Cairo	1
Meets Mubarak, Comments [MENA]	1
Views are 'Identical' [Riyadh TV]	1
Mubarak Comments on Crisis on Way to Riyadh [AL-JUMHURIYAH 1 Feb]	1
Human Rights Group Appeals for Civil Liberties [Baghdad INA]	3
Warning Against Use of Unconventional Arms in Gulf [MENA]	3
Exceeding UN Resolutions Could Split Arab Countries [AL-AHRA' AL-DUWALI 4 Feb]	3
Cairo Daily Condemns Support for Saddam Husayn [AL-JUMHURIYAH 3 Feb]	4

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Kuwait

Minister Praises Saudi-Qatari Bravery in Battle [London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI 4 Feb]	5
Iraqis Said Burning Oil Wells for 'Cover' [London KUNA]	5

Saudi Arabia

Joint Forces Issue Communique No. 20 [Riyadh TV]	5
Qatari Aircraft Strike Iraqi Targets [AFP]	6
King Fahd Receives Support Messages From Sudan [Riyadh TV]	6
Receives Religious Scholars, Shaykhs [SPA]	6
Editorial Criticizes Pre-Liberation Cease-Fire [London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 4 Feb]	6
Iran Said To Stay Neutral if Israel Retaliates [London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 5 Feb]	7
Paper Questions Palestinian Support for Saddam [Riyadh Radio]	7
Security Forces Praised Over Bus Attack [Riyadh Radio]	8
Paper Condemns Saddam, Supports Palestinians [Riyadh Radio]	8
Paper Comments on Iranian Offer of Talks [London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 5 Feb]	9

Oman

Envoy Returns From Saudi Arabia [WAKH]	9
Sultan Sends Condolences on Base Commander's Death [OMAN DAILY OBSERVER 2 Feb]	9

Qatar

Amir Receives Telephone Call From Turkey's Ozal [WAKH]	9
--	---

United Arab Emirates

Zayid Receives Letter From Oman's Sultan Qabus [WAKH]	10
---	----

Yemen

Representatives Condemn 'Aggression' Against Iraq [Aden Radio]	10
--	----

IRAQ

Relations With Coalition Nations Severed 6 Feb	[INA]	11
Spokesman Announces Missile Attack on Haifa	[Baghdad Radio]	11
Spokesman: 33 Raids Against Nation 'Last Night'	[Baghdad Radio]	12
Communique Outlines Situation 6 Feb	[Baghdad Radio]	12
Tehran Reports U.S. Air Raid on 'Heart Hospital'	[Tehran Radio]	12
Charge in London Allegedly Opposed to Saddam	[London AL-ZAHIRAH 4 Feb]	12
Envoy in Paris Criticizes Western Media Coverage	[Amman Radio]	13
International Red Cross Convoy Arrives in Baghdad	[Bern International]	13
Commentary on Cheney Gulf Mission, Ground War	[Baghdad Radio]	13
Stockholm Institute Publishes Arms Suppliers List	[Vienna WOCHENPRESSE 7 Feb]	14
Bush Criticized for Bombing 'Innocent Civilians'	[Baghdad Radio]	15
No Room for Neutrality in 'Mother of Battles'	[Baghdad Radio]	15
AL-QADISIYAH on Results of 'Aggression'	[INA]	16
Use of Longer Range Missile Threatened	[AFP]	17
Paper Says War To Last Longer Than Expected	[INA]	17

ISRAEL

Shamir on Threat to Israel, Whitehall Attack	[Voice of Israel, IDF Radio Network]	18
Satisfaction Expressed With Baker's Remarks	[Voice of Israel, IDF Radio Network]	18
U.S. Probe on Demilitarizing Golan Area Incidental	[MA'ARIV 7 Feb]	18
Commentary Supports Defense Pact With U.S.	[HA'ARETZ 6 Feb]	19
IDF Confirms Raid on Targets in South Lebanon	[Jerusalem TV]	20
Army Denies Iraqi Missile Attack on Haifa	[Hamburg DPA]	20
Services To Resume 'Full, Normal Operations'	[Voice of Israel, IDF Radio Network]	20
Levi on Iraqi 'Atrocities,' Israeli Response	[Jerusalem TV]	20
Saddam 'Personally Responsible'	[Voice of Israel, IDF Radio Network]	21
Ze'evi Appointment Continues To Draw Reactions		21
Arab Mayors Critical	[Jerusalem TV]	21
Ze'evi Defends Transfer Idea	[Tel Aviv TV]	21
Meridor Discusses Appointment, Restraint	[Voice of Israel, IDF Radio Network]	22
Arens 'Not in Favor'	[Voice of Israel, IDF Radio Network]	23
Arens on Iraqi Missile Threat, Rocket Attacks	[Jerusalem Radio]	23
Sources Deny Territories Arabs To Work in Israel	[Voice of Israel, IDF Radio Network]	24
Three-Stage Plan for Easing Curfews in Territories	[THE JERUSALEM POST 6 Feb]	24
Iraqi Messages Sent to Territories Activists	[MA'ARIV 6 Feb]	25
Pro-PLO Dailies Detail Palestinian Problems		25
Hopes Not Met by Post-War Peace Plans	[AL-SHA'B 3 Feb]	25
Israel Exploiting Palestinians	[AL-FAJR 4 Feb]	25
Delegation Says Germany Trying To Amend Past Errors	[GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE]	26
Proof of German Chemical Sales to Iraq Sought	[Voice of Israel, IDF Radio Network]	26

JORDAN

King Gives Arab, Islamic Nation Speech 6 Feb	[Amman Radio]	27
Badran Says Big Powers Blocked Peace Attempts	[JORDAN TIMES 6 Feb]	29
PLO Executive Warns of 'Point of No Return'	[Amman Radio]	30
Residents Block Trucks on Way to Saudi Arabia		31
Security Source Statement	[Amman Radio]	31
AFP Reports Seizure		31
Syrian Trucks Said Involved	[Ankara TV]	31
Police Restore Order	[AFP]	31
U.S. Wheat Consignment Arrives at al-'Aqabah	[AL-DUSTUR 6 Feb]	31
War Against Iraq Likened to Historic Attack	[AL-RAY 6 Feb]	32

SOUTH ASIA

Bangladesh

Awami League Chief Announces Election Manifesto [Dhaka Radio]	33
Alliance Criticizes U.S. on Concern for Ershad [AFP]	33

Iran

Khamene'i Speech Marks Revolution Anniversary [Tehran Radio]	33
Kuwait Paper Carries Rafsanjani Peace Plan Draft [London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWAYLI 5 Feb]	34
Velayati Meets With Turkish Foreign Minister [IRNA]	35
Further on Discussions [IRNA]	35
Post-War Assistance to Iraq Discussed [Ankara Radio]	35
Ankara Radio on Meeting	36
Velayati, USSR's Belonogov Discuss Gulf War [Tehran Radio]	36
Va'ez, Belonogov Meet [IRNA]	36
Ahmad Khomeyni on Israeli 'Threat' [Tehran TV]	36
Ahmad Khomeyni Reiterates Neutrality in Gulf War [Tehran Radio]	37
Mitterrand, Rafsanjani Discuss Gulf War by Phone [Tehran Radio]	37
Bush Remarks on Civilian Bombing Refuted [Tehran International]	37
* RESALAT Reports 3 Dec 90 Majles Session [4 Dec 90]	38
* RESALAT Reports 26 Nov 90 Majles Session [27 Nov 90]	41
* RESALAT Reports 25 Nov 90 Majles Session [26 Nov 90]	45
* RESALAT Reports 20 Nov Majles Session [21 Nov]	52

Egypt

Saudi Foreign Minister Al-Faysal Visits Cairo

Meets Mubarak, Comments

NC0602120191 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1115 GMT
6 Feb 91

[Excerpts] Cairo, 6 Feb (MENA)—Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal has stated that he delivered a message to President Mubarak from Saudi King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, during a meeting today.

In a statement after the meeting, Prince al-Faysal said the message is part of the continuous consultations between the two countries and a continuation of the talks held between King Fahd and President Mubarak during the latter's recent visit to Saudi Arabia.

On the planned security arrangements for the region, Prince al-Faysal said that these arrangements concern the countries of the region primarily and the Arab countries in general. He said these arrangements will be put in their proper perspective in due time.

On the recent Iranian initiative, al-Faysal said his country has not yet received anything official on the initiative.

Dr. 'Isamat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, attended the meeting. He expressed his pleasure at meeting with the Saudi minister and at the continuous consultations between the two countries. He said consultations will continue in the form of meetings between Prince al-Faysal and himself. [passage omitted]

On the Iranian initiative, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said: We received nothing on that initiative.

Views are 'Identical'

LD0602200291 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television
Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Excerpt] His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, [Saudi foreign minister], and the Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister ['Isamat 'Abd al-Majid] met today in Cairo. In a statement to SPA after the meeting, Dr. 'Isamat 'Abd al-Majid said that the talks dealt with current developments, and pointed out that Egyptian and Saudi views are identical. He said that this is something they take pride in, and stressed the ties between King Fahd-Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, and His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, and between the two peoples for peace, stability, and the rejection of aggression. [passage omitted]

Mubarak Comments on Crisis on Way to Riyadh

PM0602121791 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic
1 Feb 91 pp 3-4

[Chief Editor Mahfuz al-Ansari report: "Mubarak's Trip in the Sky of Missiles"]

[Excerpts] The president's plane headed for the sky over the battleground—the sky of stray missiles. The plane penetrated the prohibited airspace over the Saudi capital and landed at Riyadh Airport. [passage omitted]

This trip was shrouded in complete secrecy right from the word go, when we were hurriedly told to proceed to Cairo Airport. We did not know our destination, not even after the plane took off and was already on course. [passage omitted]

Twenty minutes or half an hour later, the president surprised us by his presence. This has not been his custom in previous trips. He always deferred his meeting with the press until the end of his mission in order to report on the results.

The political mission had not started yet, but here was the president already speaking to us about it.

The president asked: How are your nerves strong? We are going to Riyadh, to where Saddam's Scuds are playing havoc. [passage omitted]

We asked: Mr. President, when did you decide on this trip to Riyadh and its laden skies?

He said: After the repeated shelling of Riyadh by Scuds. I thought about the matter and immediately decided to go. So here we are on our way there. I cannot possibly stay away from Riyadh when it is being subjected to missile attacks, and also without meeting with the custodian of the two holy mosques. We cannot possibly abandon a brother who is being subjected to aggression. You will remember that I also went to Baghdad when it was under missile attack. And here I am now going to Riyadh. [passage omitted]

The president announced with great sorrow: I never thought that Iraq possessed this huge a war arsenal and infrastructure. I knew that Saudi Arabia gave him more than \$27 billion, and Kuwait some \$20 billion, and that Qatar also gave him something. I also knew that he bought large quantities of arms and ammunition. But it never occurred to me that he bought such a vast quantity. If God has bestowed this boon on him and enabled him to build and reconstruct, is it right now to waste all that in an adventure against Kuwait?

We asked the president: Could it be possible that all the military arsenal and infrastructure revealed by recent events were solely intended against Kuwait, not Israel?

The president said that he has revised all his calculations, collected all data, and come up with the following strategic military and political conclusion: It is not Saddam's intention to direct his hordes against Israel.

The president said: Kuwait was the stepping stone. No doubt, the Iraqi president has gone bankrupt. He spent everything he had, including what he got from others. The huge machine he built needed constant maintenance. The "big plan" or ambitious dream is consuming Saddam and the waiting "could kill him."

The president added: He is beset by constraints. His stories are still vivid in my mind. I remember one day he cried emotionally because 18,000 Egyptian soldiers were fighting among his soldiers, and many other Egyptians were undertaking all kinds of tasks in order to maintain normal life and business in Iraqi cities, ministries, factories, and farms while all of Iraq was mobilized as one army to liberate al-Faw and the islands.

I remember him telling me we can no longer buy baby milk, as if the entire Iraqi population were made up of children!! I remember his general talk about the redistribution of wealth and frivolous spending!! I remember his talk about the suffering of the Egyptian people and his remark that it was time they achieved their rights.

The president said: Egypt has never been an aggressive state. It never had any ambitions against anyone. Egypt has never sought to exploit the willfulness of a murderer or a madman. Egypt is a state of sacrifice and hard work; a state of right, justice, and principle. The picture is very clear now. The plan can be seen clearly from the present course of events and from a review of our relations over the past two years. Kuwait is the stepping stone. He will seize it, swallow it, and then present it as a fait accompli on the Arab, regional, and international levels. Later, he will move to the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia and then to Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, and Oman.

I would like to make a remark here: Saddam's hostility toward Sultan Qabus is long-standing; it goes back to the time when Saddam asked the sultan to give him a military base in Oman to use in his air raids against Iran. Sultan Qabus rejected that very strongly.

Let us now continue with the president's talk: After the Emirates, Oman will follow. From Oman the road will be open to Yemen and Sudan. This will bring him to his main objective—Egypt. He could not control Egypt politically, so he is now trying to achieve his objective by directly threatening it from its southern border. Control of Egypt would mean control of the Arab world, which, in his opinion, would mean control of 60 percent of the world's oil.

President Mubarak recalled other memories. He recalled the attempts to control Egypt through the formation of the so-called Arab army or Arab corps—the proposal brought to us by King Husayn which we rejected. Saddam Husayn tried to achieve the same objective through the Arab Cooperation Council when he proposed the "defense and security" plan, which we also rejected.

Mubarak revealed that his military experience and political sense made him reject all these attempts and therefore nip them in the bud, even when relations were at their best.

There was something "suspect" behind those plans and proposals, which were made with or without any particular reason.

The president affirmed in his "hot talk" that in all his actions Egypt's interests and the higher Arab national interests were always at heart. He went for right, justice,

and the defense of principles regardless of who was the aggressor. [passage omitted]

I asked the president: Your letter to the Iraqi president of 29 December, that is a few days before hell was let loose in the Gulf, contained a serious and important message. You asked the Iraqi president to declare his intention to withdraw and to begin withdrawing and said that you would guarantee the security of this withdrawal and the Iraqi Army and people. You told him that you would guarantee that the Iraqi Army would not be chased and hunted down. You also guaranteed the preservation of Iraq's resources and factories. Mr. President, was that really possible in view of the general conviction that the allied forces are there to strike at Iraq's military machine, and that as far as they were concerned this objective supersedes any other objective, including the liberation of Kuwait and the preservation and control of oil interests?

The president revealed all secrets. He showed his true Arab national face. He said: Is it easy for a man like myself who knows what war means and what this vast and unprecedented buildup of forces and weapons means?

Is it easy for a man like myself who has witnessed all this preparation and buildup and knows full well what the intentions were and that the decision had already been made that if the withdrawal did not take place, the war machine would begin to churn violently?

Is it easy for a man like myself to see this huge war machine directed against a fraternal Arab country and army and still remain silent or indifferent and just satisfied with what I have said and urged?

Should I also get angry with the insults that have been made against me because of my appeals to avoid war and save Iraq and its people and army?!

Do you believe that the proposal I made in my letter to Saddam on 29 December was mere talk, wishes, or hopes—talk not backed by force or commitment?!

I spoke on this subject at length and in depth with U.S. President Bush.

I also spoke on it emphatically with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. Moreover, I broached it with other world leaders.

I obtained an agreement and a commitment that Iraq would be protected from any harm as soon as it responded to the international community's demand for withdrawal.

More than that, in my discussion with Baker on this subject and the need to guarantee this security, the U.S. secretary said: Mr. President, do you think that if President Saddam announced his decision to withdraw and actually began the withdrawal that anyone would fire a single shot?!

Let him withdraw and no one will touch his country or army.

The president continued: I was pleased, and I sent my letter to Saddam. But he only attacked me personally. More than that, we tried to persuade President Saddam that his withdrawal could take place even at the very last minute; that is, at the end of the Security Council deadline at midnight on 15 January. We had great hopes he would agree. But he let us down. The opportunity still stands even today in order to save what can be saved. Unfortunately, all indications are that he is moving in the opposite direction—the direction of stubbornness and the loss of Iraq. [passage omitted]

We asked the president: What is your assessment of the military situation? What do you think is the reason behind President Saddam's rejection? Does he still hold any surprises that could change the course of the war?

The president, overwhelmed by sadness and sorrow, said that the military reports he read last night showed that the picture is difficult and impossible and the stubbornness is fatal.

The president knows the Iraqi forces' capabilities and resources. [passage omitted]

Human Rights Group Appeals for Civil Liberties

NC0602123591 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1140 GMT
6 Feb 91

[Text] Cairo, 6 Feb (INA)—The Egyptian Human Rights Organization has confirmed that 150 people belonging to various political parties and trends have recently been detained because of their opposition to the war against Iraq led by Washington. In a statement distributed to news agencies, the organization says that three journalists, including the chief editors of two opposition papers, have been referred to a military court, and a fourth has been questioned by the military prosecutor.

The statement adds that the organization condemns the actions against those opposed to the war against Iraq and appeals to the authorities to respect public liberties and to stop any arbitrary measures against them.

The organization says that the measures taken by the authorities are selective in nature. They do not address freedom of opinion and expression in general but are directed against the right of those opposed to the war to express their opinion. At the same time, the authorities' followers enjoy complete freedom in using all the basic information media, such as the radio and television, which they monopolize.

The Islamic newspapers AL-SHA'B and AL-HAQIQAH published reports on the eve of the outbreak of the aggressive war against Iraq, referring to the use of an Egyptian airport by American military aircraft and a possible (?reduction) in the Egyptian military forces.

Warning Against Use of Unconventional Arms in Gulf

NC0602033791 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0057 GMT
6 Feb 91

[Text] Cairo, 5 Feb (MENA)—The newspaper AL-AHRAM has expressed regret over statements by parties to the Gulf war concerning the possibility of using unconventional weapons against the adversary. Iraq is implying it will use chemical weapons, and the allied nations respond by stating they may use nuclear weapons.

In an editorial tomorrow, Wednesday, the newspaper warns the parties to the war that resorting to unconventional weapons will not affect just the troops on the ground; the consequences of the use of such weapons will extend to civilians and the environment. This, the paper warns, will have disastrous effects on the region and its inhabitants long after the war is over.

The paper hopes that the Iraqi leaders will bear in mind the grave situation experienced by the region since the occupation of Kuwait and that they will not commit further crimes against the region and its future. This can be done by refraining from using unconventional weapons so as not to provide the multinational forces with a pretext to use nuclear weapons, the paper notes.

The paper hopes that Iraq's leaders will remember the disasters threatening the region and pan-Arab security. The paper explains this can be done by withdrawing from Kuwait under any excuse or pretext so as to enable the Arab states to move and exert pressure to halt the fighting. This will safeguard what remains of Iraq's military capabilities and protect pan-Arab security from the forces seeking to undermine it.

Exceeding UN Resolutions Could Split Arab Countries

PM0602164091 Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-DUWALI
in Arabic 4 Feb 91 p 6

[Salamah Ahmad Salamah article: "Precautions"]

[Text] The more intensive the battles between the allied and Iraqi forces, the more essential it becomes for the allies to restate their objectives in order to avoid any confusion or misunderstandings, whose effects could be difficult to eradicate and even become harmful.

Fortunately, Egypt and Saudi Arabia—in the persons of President Mubarak and King Fahd—have promptly affirmed that their countries agree that the Egyptian and Saudi forces will not enter Iraqi territory under any circumstances and that their forces' mission is restricted to liberating Kuwait and restoring its legitimate government in accordance with the UN resolutions.

The position of the Arab side in the international coalition has been further elucidated by the statement by several Egyptian Government officials that it is not Egypt's aim to overthrow or hunt down Saddam Husayn's regime. They also said that once Kuwait is

liberated, there will be nothing to prevent any dealings with Saddam or any regime chosen by the Iraqi people.

I may be one of those who strongly believe that Saddam Husayn's demise would be the desirable happy ending to the Gulf crisis, but I also believe that the Egyptian and Saudi position—which stops at the point of liberating Kuwait and restoring its legitimate government—should be the Arab aim, which we must not exceed or allow others to exceed. Otherwise, we would be setting a precedent for the foreign forces to appoint or depose any government or regime in the Arab World according to their own whims. And we simply cannot allow or agree to that.

A great deal of this confusion has already emerged in the official and semi-official statements made by several British and U.S. Government officials. These officials are not just demanding the withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Kuwait, but have gone beyond that in their interpretation of the UN Security Council resolutions by calling for the overthrow of Saddam Husayn and for the total destruction of Iraq's military strength. Therefore, they say that the present military operations must not stop at removing the Iraqi forces from Kuwait and reinstating the legitimate government there, but that they must go on to these other objectives!!

The gravity of such statements—which reveal objectives which were not known at the beginning of the Gulf crisis or when the United Nations passed its resolution—lies in the fact that they provide justifications for those who claimed right from the beginning of the Gulf crisis that the U.S. and British intervention in the crisis was not for the purpose of defending the independence of a small country—Kuwait—and confronting a tyrant threatening his neighbors and the stability of the region, but for other ulterior motives. Therefore, these suspicions will increase as the allies continue to pound Iraqi targets, and it will be difficult to unite the Arabs and to heal wounds after that.

Cairo Daily Condemns Support for Saddam Husayn
PM0602132491 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic
3 Feb 91 p 5

[Muhammad al-Hayawan article: "A Word of Love"]

[Text] To say: Stop the war to rescue the Iraqi people, is to state the truth for purposes of deception. This, because not everyone wants to destroy Iraq—not even the United States, who the Muslim Brotherhood and the communists accuse of wanting to do so. All the parties concerned and the allies do not want to destroy the Iraqi people or the Iraqi Army. This is the truth. But to stop the war to protect Saddam and his occupation of Kuwait: That is deception.

The strange thing is that Saddam killed a million people in his war with Iran, and no one wept over them. He made 300,000 Kuwaitis homeless, and no one cared. He has killed and tortured scores of people in Kuwait and

nobody has expressed anger. But when Iraq announced that the allied forces had killed 100 Iraqis by mistake, the Muslim Brotherhood and the communists demanded a cease-fire so that the United States would not destroy the Iraqi people.

It is also strange for the communists and the Muslim brotherhood to agree on something, since they have never agreed on anything before. One of the ways of torturing Muslim Brotherhood members in the days of 'Abd-al-Nasir was to place communists in the Muslim Brotherhood's prisons. The Muslim Brotherhood used to regard that as the harshest and ugliest method of torture. But both are now loudly demanding protection for Saddam.

The Muslim Brotherhood's mistake is that they do not care about the killing of an Arab, Muslim Kuwaiti, as long as his killer is Arab and Muslim; but they express anger at the killing of an Arab, Muslim Iraqi because an American bullet killed him. The Muslim Brotherhood should have expressed anger in both cases. They say: We are against the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. We, too, are completely against it. Then they demand that the war be stopped because it is destroying Iraq. But they have not told us how we can free Kuwait from Saddam's claws. They have not explained to us what sort of punishment Saddam should receive for what he has done in Kuwait. One thing on which we agree with the Muslim brotherhood is that Saddam is a Muslim and that nobody should accuse a Muslim of infidelity. But can Saddam's crimes be forgiven in this world and the hereafter?

The communists have another position: They reject the United States, and this is their right. But it seems that their lines with Moscow are cut off, because Russia is currently dealing with the United States and extending its dealings with the former devils. Russia has obtained a \$3 billion loan from South Korea. It has also obtained loans from Kuwait and Saudi Arabia and is obtaining loans, projects, and food from West Germany. Until Gorbachev all these were merely devils in the eyes of the Soviets. Then the reform movement emerged in Russia, but it was rejected by the communists in Egypt. And they still dream of Gorbachev's downfall. And they still hate and envy the rich Arabs. Does this mean that the reform movement in Russia has still not reached the communists in Egypt, or do they reject it, or is there another scheme that we have not yet discovered? Perhaps Russia is with Saddam, which is why the communists in Egypt are with Saddam!!

It is a matter of reason and logic: Does Saddam deserve our defense of him? How can we recover Kuwait from Saddam, when he refuses to hand it over voluntarily? And how can the Iraqi people be safeguarded, when Saddam refuses this?

How did the communists agree on one issue, when they have always been in disagreement? We need some explanations, because we cannot understand any of this.

Kuwait

Minister Praises Saudi-Qatari Bravery in Battle

PM0702102791 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT
AL-DUWALI in Arabic 4 Feb 91 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Council of Ministers Praises Saudi and Qatari Forces' Bravery"]

[Text] Al-Ta'if, KUNA—Kuwait yesterday praised the "outstanding bravery" of the Saudi and Qatari forces and the other friendly forces, which were able to destroy the Iraqi forces' infiltration attempt in the town of al-Khafji.

This came in a statement by Dr. Badr Jasim al-Ya'qub, minister of state for National Assembly affairs and minister of information, following a meeting held by the Council of Ministers.

Mr. al-Ya'qub said in his statement that "the Council of Ministers was informed of the sinful Iraqi aggression against al-Khafji town and followed with total pride the outstanding bravery displayed by the victorious Saudi forces in cooperation with the brave Qatari forces and the other fraternal and friendly forces, through which it was possible to defeat the aggressor and protect the pure Saudi territory from his filth."

Al-Ya'qub added: "In praising these forces' outstanding and heroic role in defeating the aggressor, it sends its warmest and sincerest condolences to the families of the revered martyrs."

Iraqis Said Burning Oil Wells for 'Cover'

LD0702033191 London KUNA in Arabic 0040 GMT
7 Feb 91

[Formerly Kuwait KUNA]

[Text] Riyadh, 7 Feb (KUNA) Military sources close to the Joint Forces and Theater of Operations Command stated to KUNA today that the Iraqi forces have begun to set fire to a number of Kuwaiti oil wells and that the columns of smoke now cover the sky of Kuwait.

The sources added that the Iraqi forces' aim from this sabotage was to create a cover, now that the Iraqi Air Force has been destroyed and its security defenses have been weakened. But the sources affirmed that this will not affect the military operations of the international forces for the liberation of Kuwait.

The sources pointed out that the coalition air forces continue to "weaken the Iraqi forces, particularly the Republican Guards forces" and to limit their military capabilities.

They added that the air bombing of the Iraqi forces near the Kuwaiti-Saudi border has intensified.

Saudi Arabia

Joint Forces Issue Communique No. 20

LD0602191991 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television
Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Military Communique No. 20 issued by the Joint Forces and Theater of Operations Command for 6 February, read out at press briefing in Riyadh by Colonel Ahmad al-Rubay'an—recorded]

[Text] The number of prisoners held in camps since the beginning of the Desert Storm operation has now reached 862, including 51 officers. In addition to this number, last night six army personnel of the forces of the aggressor surrendered to Egyptian forces, with their equipment. Seventeen of the aggressor's men, including two officers, also surrendered to U.S. forces yesterday.

The total number of air raid sorties carried out by the joint forces since the beginning of the Desert Storm operation has reached more than 49,000, of which our air force undertook about 3,200.

This morning, seven MiG-21 aircraft took off from northeast of Baghdad and flew toward Iran. Four of them were shot down by joint forces' aircraft while the other three were able to land in Iran.

At 2130 yesterday evening, the aggressors tried to infiltrate by sea into the town of al-Khafji by means of three boats. An exchange of fire took place between the aggressors and marine infantry of the Saudi forces: Two boats of the aggressors were sunk, and the others fled. We will give you details later.

A U.S. Cobra helicopter attacked a 40-man Iraqi patrol. We have no information about the losses of the aggressor.

Before I start to answer questions, now that I am concluding this communique, considering the surrender of 23 army personnel and the increase of the number of prisoners to more than 885 since the beginning of the Desert Storm operation, it is worth stressing that most of those who surrendered said that the primary cause that led them to surrender was the invitation of the commander of the joint forces and operations theater, which stressed that those who surrender would fully enjoy Arab generosity, security, safety, and medical care, and would be returned to their families as soon as this situation ends.

At the end of this meeting, we will be pleased to distribute examples of some of these invitations. The command of the joint forces has designed 25 different types, and 25 million copies have been printed, of which 14 million copies have been distributed so far.

Qatari Aircraft Strike Iraqi Targets

NC0702114491 Paris AFP in English 1137 GMT
7 Feb 91

[Text] Doha, Feb 7 (AFP)—Warplanes of the Qatari air force on Thursday struck military targets in Kuwait, the Qatari military command said.

The communique, quoted by Doha Radio, did not identify the targets or say how many aircraft took part.

The Qatari airforce's participation in Operation Desert Storm was announced last week by Saudi military spokesmen.

Qatari troops also took part in Saudi-led operations to recapture the border town of Khafji on January 31, after it had been briefly seized by the Iraqis.

King Fahd Receives Support Messages From Sudan

LD0602194691 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television
Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the national guard, have received messages from Ahmad al-Mirghani, former chairman of the Head of State Council in the Republic of Sudan, and Muhammad Uthman al-Mirghani, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party in Sudan.

In their messages they stressed their firm and unyielding stand with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in defending the faith, land, and honor against the unjust Iraqi aggression. They also reaffirmed their comprehensive and full support for all the measures and steps taken by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia before and after the commencement of military operations to liberate the sisterly state of Kuwait. They said that the steps are supported by all sincere people.

The custodian of the two holy mosques and his faithful crown prince thanked Ahmad al-Mirghani and Muhammad Uthman al-Mirghani for their noble Arab and Islamic sentiments and prayed to God to protect the Arab and Islamic nations from the evils of aggressors and the spiteful, and to provide them with all the means of success in their steps.

Receives Religious Scholars, Shaykhs

LD0502135191 Riyadh SPA in English 1241 GMT
5 Feb 91

[Text] Riyadh, Feb 5, SPA—Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz received at the Royal Court at al-Yamamah Palace here today ulema (religious scholars) and sheikhs.

The king also received a group of citizens who came to greet him. The royal audiences were attended by Crown

Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, deputy premier and commander of the National Guard.

Editorial Criticizes Pre-Liberation Cease-Fire

PM0502152591 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 4 Feb 91 p9

[Editorial: "The Only Way To End the War"]

[Text] Those seeking a cease-fire in the Gulf before the withdrawal of the Iraqi invaders from Kuwait think they are playing a clever game, but their aims and objectives are known and have been exposed. This is a new maneuver by Saddam Husayn to delay the hour of defeat and the now close day of hard reckoning.

The Gulf war would not have erupted had Saddam Husayn not, first, occupied Kuwait, and, second, rejected all the UN resolutions calling on him to withdraw unconditionally from Kuwait, and, last but not least, aborted all efforts and initiatives made by those who offered their good offices to prevent the war, the last of which were the UN secretary general's effort and French President Francois Mitterrand's initiative.

The Iraqi regime revealed its real intentions when one of Saddam's trumpets said that Iraq was not interested in initiatives and that its seizure of Kuwait was eternal because it was part of Iraq.

The war was bound to break out in implementation of the UN resolution which set 15 January as the deadline for Saddam to withdraw from Kuwait after which the whole world had the right to act to put an end to this unprecedented crime in history.

It is clear, therefore, that any cease-fire before the Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait would mean that the United Nations backtracked on its resolution and that the world decided to give Saddam Husayn a chance to catch his breath and prepare for more games and maneuvers aimed at prolonging the war and trying to breach the international coalition and arouse emotions and fanaticism through campaigns of lies and disinformation and through false slogans.

The U.S. White House has reaffirmed that there would be no cease-fire and that no compromise solutions would be accepted before the main strategic aims of the Desert Storm operation are fulfilled, especially the expulsion of the invading Iraqi forces from all Kuwaiti territory, the full implementation of the UN resolutions, and prevention of future repetition of aggression in the region.

Only on that basis would the Gulf war stop, after restoration of rights to their owners, the criminal aggressor getting the punishment he deserves, and the people in the region and the whole world reassured that this terrible nightmare would not recur.

Iran Said To Stay Neutral if Israel Retaliates

PM0702090291 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 5 Feb 91 pp 1, 4

[Amir Taheri report: "Tehran Would Not Interfere if Turkey Joined the War"]

[Excerpts] Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani yesterday gave the green light for the international allied forces to launch a ground attack on Iraq to force it to withdraw from Kuwait. He confirmed that Iran would remain neutral in the war.

Although Hashemi-Rafsanjani touched on several important points at his first press conference since the beginning of the Gulf war, the most important message he wanted to convey to the international allied forces, and particularly the United States, was that Iran would maintain its neutrality in the event of a large-scale ground offensive against the Iraqi forces, even if Turkey joined the war and opened another front in northern Iraq. [passage omitted]

Most analysts see Hashemi-Rafsanjani's press conference yesterday as an indication that he has emerged victorious from the current Tehran power struggle and that he has managed to silence the voices urging Iran to enter the war.

These analysts say that Hashemi-Rafsanjani's definite confirmation of Iran's neutrality, "even if Turkey joins the war," gives the international allied forces additional planning and attack options for the liberation of Kuwait. [passage omitted]

Another important point emerged during Hashemi-Rafsanjani's press conference, namely, his assertion that he has sought "instructions" from the Republic's spiritual guide, "Ali Khamene'i, to open a direct dialogue with the United States. True, there have been continuous indirect contacts between the two sides since August, but Iran now wants to move on to another phase of direct dialogue in return for its neutral stance in the Gulf war. It also expects the United States to lift the ban on the sale of arms to Iran and it wants the delivery of \$1.2 billion-worth of spare parts purchased and paid for under the shah's reign but frozen since 1980. Release of the spare parts would enable Iran to repair some 80 of its old U.S.-made aircraft, and that would guarantee that it would be able to defend itself against any future Iraqi provocation.

It now seems clear that Iran will never return the Iraqi aircraft—estimated to total some 200—which landed in Iran. Although Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that these aircraft had landed without permission and that Iran would not return to Iraq until after the war, there are indications that it will probably never return them. Sa'id Raja'i Khorasani, chairman of the Iranian Shura Council's Foreign Affairs Committee, said in a press statement published yesterday that these aircraft had "taken

refuge" in Iran and that a number of Iraqi pilots went there without orders from their commands.

Meanwhile, Iran has also rejected a Saddam Husayn plan for a new coalition government in which Shi'ite opposition parties would be given one-third of the Cabinet portfolios and 40 seats in the National Assembly. Tehran believes that the form of government in Iraq is something which should be discussed after, not before, the war ends.

Something else worth noting is the report from informed Iranian sources that Iran would not abandon its neutrality even in the event of an Israeli retaliation to Iraqi Scud attacks.

It seems clear that Iran hopes to be "rewarded" for its neutrality with a role in the future security arrangements for the region and with aid for the reconstruction of what was destroyed in the previous war.

Paper Questions Palestinian Support for Saddam

LD0602132691 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 6 Feb 91

[From the "Press Review"]

[Excerpts] AL-MADINAH writes: Have those who distorted positions, rushed to level charges, and rallied in the coffins of sedition read history and learned of the results. Those ignorant of history are the ones who falsify the established facts in the struggles of peoples. The people cannot be deceived for long. The age that man is facing today is the age of precise information which opens for man all the options of the future.

Those ignorant of history who stood in the begging lines to seek recognition as representatives of their peoples have not read history well. In the journey of the absence of the priority of presence, history has dropped all the roles played by the conjurers, hypocrites, and those who con the will of the peoples. [sentence as heard]

We ask about the meaning of governing by oppressing the will of others. Who stole the child like innocence from the eyes of the mothers in the State of Kuwait on the morning of that fatal Thursday? The State of Kuwait embraced 450,000 Palestinians who lived on its land as strong brothers and who put down their roots in Kuwait. A generation of them grew up knowing nothing but Kuwait. Who oppressed their will and blew up the historical facts? Who destroyed the wall of fraternity and tore the link of kinship? Were they not the ruler of Baghdad and the clique who conspires with him? Was Kuwait not the homeland that gave Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] the opportunity to change from an engineer to a leader? Was it not on the land of Kuwait that the first signs of struggle occurred? And since when has the occupation of Kuwait become an Arab victory? [passage omitted]

We still wonder who killed Abu-Jihad [Khalil Ibrahim al-Wazir], Abu-Iyad [Salah Khalaf], and Abu-al-Hawl [Hayil

'Abd-al-Hamid], who were Palestinian symbols who believed in the struggle of their people and stood in the way of those who tried to toy with the destiny of the intifadah and the struggle of the brothers in the occupied territories.

We are still looking for the facts, and only you can answer. You know that Saddam, who killed—with your knowledge—your brothers in arms, will eventually kill those who remain.

Security Forces Praised Over Bus Attack

LD0602093191 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 6 Feb 91

[From the "Press Review"]

[Text] Under the caption "Greetings to the Security Men," the newspaper AL-BILAD writes about the security and peace which the Saudi Arabian Kingdom enjoys, thanks to our wise leadership which works to insure the security of the citizen and the homeland.

The paper greets the security men, who have proven their excellent capability in following up the sources of terrorism, uprooting it, and dealing with it in the manner it deserves. The paper writes: In less than 24 hours, the security men succeeded in arresting those who attacked a bus in Jeddah, trying by this to spread panic and fright among the citizens in a sinister aggressive scheme.

The paper also speaks of the battle of purging al-Khafji from the aggressor Iraqi forces and says: The victorious al-Khafji battle was reminiscent of our battles at Hittin and 'Ayn-Jallut and other battles. It has set an example of the battle between good and evil, between right and wrong, and between faith and ungodliness.

This battle has provided a lesson for the Iraqi aggressor. Perhaps it will make him review his calculations and think a thousand times before committing aggression again.

The paper affirms that this integration between what is taking place at the battlefield and what is taking place on the internal front provides proof of the strength of preparation and precision of implementation. It provides yet another affirmation by the security men of their superior power in dealing with terrorism, whatever this terrorism may be, and thus keeping our country as a stronghold and haven for security, reassurance, and peace throughout the Kingdom, and routing all those attempted to commit acts of aggression.

As we feel proud today of our security men and of our valiant Armed Forces, we wish to affirm that our country is a target for the spiteful and rancorous. But alert eyes always protect it from all those who do not want it to have any stability, peace, or reassurance. We tell those today as we have always done: This country, which God almighty has chosen for the revelation of his message, is protected by the eyes and arms of the valiant men in furtherance of God's will on earth. Aggression will be routed and all its consequences will be eliminated, and

right will return to its owners. This is our mission. Indeed, it is the mission which the world at the highest international platform of the United Nations has undertaken to implement.

Paper Condemns Saddam, Supports Palestinians

LD0602090791 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 6 Feb 91

[From the "Press Review"]

[Text] Under the caption "The Stand of Right and The Stands of Wrong," AL-JAZIRAH writes: Once more, the supreme commander of our valiant armed forces, the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud—may God safeguard him—has expressed his royal appreciation of the overwhelming victory achieved by our heroic fighters and the blood of our martyrs at the battle to purge al-Khafji of the Iraqi aggressor elements. His praise also covers the supporting fraternal and friendly forces, seen as an expression of solidarity in the stand of honor against oppression and aggression, the ambitions of expansionism, and the fantasies of leadership which prompted the tyrant of Iraq, Saddam Husayn, to commit an act of treachery against his neighbors, occupy Kuwait, and threaten the Kingdom and the other Arab Gulf countries with an army which the Kingdom and Kuwait in particular helped to create by their money and financial and morale support until it began. Iraq's brutal commander, Saddam, saw no other enemies to assassinate and threaten other than those who had sincerely helped it and supported it in its hardest hours of ordeal, and thus saved it from defeat and annihilation.

The paper expresses regret at the stands of those who support the president of the Iraqi regime. It says that all those who stood with Saddam Husayn and his aggression have always been, as their stances have exposed them to be, with him in his premeditated evil intentions, his rancor against us, and his envy of the wealth and rational and wise leaders God endowed us with—leaders who are bent on serving their homelands, peoples, and religion in the kingdom, as is the case also in Kuwait and the other Arab Gulf countries.

The treacherous stab in these traitorous and disgraceful stances has come from those whom fate placed at the leadership of a people whose cause has become, since its beginning, the cause of the Arab and Islamic nation, namely, the cause of usurped Palestine and the cause of its people, who live in destitution, and those who live under the yoke of the Zionist occupation.

Concluding, the paper writes: The Kingdom, which has turned [as heard] the Palestine cause and the causes of solidarity and integration among the various parts of the Arab nation, and succeeded in closing the Islamic ranks so that they may stand in its entirety behind the Arab nation in its struggle against the Zionist enemy for the sake of the liberation of Palestine and Jerusalem, will remain faithful to its principles and stances from these

causes. It will continue its loyalty to the Palestine people and to all the other oppressed fraternal peoples who have been afflicted with rulers like Saddam Husayn. It will leave these peoples alone to deal with such rulers and commanders, in the present and in the future. This is because the peoples have an unerring sense of distinction and an undefeatable will in succeeding in achieving what they want and a loyalty that does not betray those who support them.

Paper Comments on Iranian Offer of Talks

PM0602161391 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 5 Feb 91 p9

[Editorial: "Tehran, Baghdad, and the Timing Game"]

[Text] Iraqi President Saddam Husayn has for months been seeking a meeting with Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The Iraqi president's aim is not to close a painful chapter but to use such a meeting in his current battle. Saddam Husayn wants to give the impression that the siege around him is not complete and that he can still find loopholes in the ring that has encircled him since his invasion of Kuwait.

To achieve that objective, Saddam did not hesitate to make concessions that would have been inconceivable had he not sensed the gravity of his crisis.

There is a high degree of miscalculation in the Iraqi president's conduct, the same kind of thing that his prior decisions to invade and then annex Kuwait reflected.

The link between all these mistakes is the Iraqi president's feeling that he can always spring surprises, turn the tables, or confound his enemies with some card up his sleeve.

The trouble with those who have too much confidence in their own intelligence is that they pay no attention to the ability of others to make precise calculations in crucial circumstances. In extremely complex crises, the timing of one's steps is of exceptional importance militarily and politically.

In more detail one could say that the Iranian president yesterday expressed his willingness to meet with the Iraqi president "if such a meeting is in the interest of peace," with Tehran setting the date. The Iraqi president, with whom Hashemi-Rafsanjani says he is now willing to meet, is the head of a state which has placed itself in a position of confrontation with international legitimacy and which ignored the Security Council deadline and slipped into a war from which it could never emerge a victor.

Furthermore, Saddam Husayn is today the head of a state which has had to smuggle its best fighter planes to Iran, giving Tehran another card to add to those in its possession since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani's agreement to meet with Saddam was conditional on that being in the interest of peace. The possible settlement which Tehran believes would

stop the war begins with an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait. So, the meeting which Saddam had sought in the hope of improving his hand and strengthening his position may now be held, but in order to improve the hand and strengthen the position of others.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani's agreement to meet with Saddam was also coupled with another indication confirming the Iranian leadership's realistic and pragmatic line. Hashemi-Rafsanjani dropped a hint about the possibility of having a dialogue with the United States on peace in the region.

It is clear, therefore, that the cards which the Iraqi leadership had counted on are cards held by others and that Iraq is no longer able to play the timing game.

Oman

Envoy Returns From Saudi Arabia

NC0602184691 Manama WAKH in English 1610 GMT
6 Feb 91

[Text] Muscat, Feb 6 (WAKH)—Omani State Minister for Foreign Affairs Yusuf Bin-al-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah returned home today after a visit to Saudi Arabia.

During the visit, the Omani minister delivered two verbal messages from Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id of Oman to Custodian of the two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin-Abd-al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia and the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

Sultan Sends Condolences on Base Commander's Death

LD0502113591 Muscat OMAN DAILY OBSERVER
in English 2 Feb 91 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Condolence"]

[Text] Muscat—His Majesty Sultan Qabus, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, has sent a cable of condolences to Air Vice Marshal the Commander of the Royal Air Force of Oman on the death of Air Commodore Ahmad Bin-Mohammad al-Rowas, Thamarit Air Base, who died in a plane crash last week during a training mission.

His Majesty also sent a similar cable to the family of the deceased.

Qatar

Amir Receives Telephone Call From Turkey's Ozal

NC0502184491 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1715 GMT
5 Feb 91

[Text] Doha, 5 Feb (WAKH)—Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad Al Thani this evening received a telephone call from Turkish President Turgut Ozal.

The QATARI NEWS AGENCY reports that the two leaders made a comprehensive review of the current

events and developments in the Gulf in light of the ongoing war. The Turkish president reiterated to His Highness Shaykh Khalifah his country's firm stand on the Gulf crisis, which calls for the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the restoration of the legitimate government led by the Kuwaiti amir, His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

The agency added that bilateral relations in the various fields were discussed.

United Arab Emirates

Zayid Receives Letter From Oman's Sultan Qabus

NC0602104991 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0958 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 Feb (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], has received a letter from His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id of Oman dealing with regional developments, in the context of consultations between the two leaders.

The message was conveyed by Sayf Bin-Ahmad Bin-Sa'ud, the sultan's court minister, when he called on the UAE president this morning.

Yemen

Representatives Condemn 'Aggression' Against Iraq

EA0502182291 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Excerpts] The Council of Representatives this afternoon concluded the first session of its second annual convention for 1991 lasting from 14 January to 14 February under the chairmanship of Dr. Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, the speaker of the assembly. During its 14 sittings, the council considered a number of subjects and reports on its agenda. It also considered a number of recent developments relating to the Gulf crisis and its developing events, as well as the brutal aggression of the United States and its allies against the fraternal people of Iraq. The council expressed its position on those events. More details in this report prepared by our colleague Zayn Alawi and read to you by our colleague, Yahya 'Uthman:

At the end of the first sitting of the first session of its second annual convention for 1991, the council, expressing its position on events in the Gulf, highly

praised the speech opening the session by Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdullah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, in which he reviewed the political situation in the region and the sincere efforts of the Yemeni Republic to avert the woes of war and destruction. [passage omitted]

In the course of discussing the brutal aggression by the allied forces under the command of the United States against the fraternal Iraqi people, the council stressed that the starting of the war and the aggression against Iraq by those forces confirmed the soundness of the conclusions reached by the Yemeni Republic on this crisis. The progress of the war, in which the most destructive weapons have been used against the Iraqi people, confirms that the goal goes beyond, by any estimate, that claimed by the suspect alliance, namely the liberation of Kuwait, to more than that, namely the destruction and crushing of any attempt to reject American [words indistinct] the region on the basis that this is an example of overreaching oneself, which must be paid for by the peoples of the region. This is what the countries of the world are watching today—sometimes in silence and sometimes biased in favor of the aggression under the threats and blackmail practiced by U.S. imperialism and Zionism.

Considering the council's analysis of those premeditated intentions of the aggressive forces against the Iraqi people and their effects on the peoples of the region, it condemned this flagrant aggression and called for standing united on the side of the heroic people of fraternal Iraq in their resistance to the ferocious attack—which reminds Arabs and Muslims, and all honorable men in all parts of the world, of the stench of that part of history besmirched by the Crusades—and the malicious campaigns whose banner is now carried by this suspect alliance which link its atrocious crimes with that black history in this new campaign in which innocents are killed and the blood of infants, the elderly, and women is shed. [passage omitted]

The Council of Representatives reiterated its call to our great Yemeni people to continue their support for the struggle and steadfastness of the heroic Iraqi people in their resistance to the aggression against their territory, resources, and assets. The Council appealed to the Yemeni masses to continue the national struggle with their characteristic ample enthusiasm to ensure further victories and the preservation and promotion of the internal front. The level of national consciousness and security vigilance should be raised in order to protect the sovereignty of the homeland, the national gains, and the original ideals of the Yemeni revolution and its humanitarian objectives. [passage omitted]

Relations With Coalition Nations Severed 6 Feb

NC0602191691 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1830 GMT
6 Feb 91

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Feb (INA)—Iraq has decided to sever diplomatic relations as of today with the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Italy, and the regimes ruling in Egypt and Saudi Arabia. The following is the text of the statement that the Foreign Ministry issued today:

Since 2 August 1990, Iraq has been careful in dealing with the development of the situation in the Arabian Gulf region within the framework of the Arab family and in a manner that fulfills the supreme pan-Arab interests without any foreign interference in the affairs of the Arab nation.

The U.S. Administration has worked from the beginning to hamper all Arab efforts or solutions for what is called the Gulf crisis. It has used the two ruling regimes in Riyadh and Cairo as a means to implement its conspiratorial and aggressive scheme against Iraq and the Arab nation. The United States launched a rabid political, media, and military campaign against Iraq, and used the Security Council to issue in its name a series of null and unjust resolutions through the use of pressure, bribery, and blackmail. It has been obvious from the beginning that the United States and its allies, the colonialist countries which have dispatched their forces to occupy the holy places of the Arabs and the Muslims in Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] and the Arabian Gulf after traitor Fahd permitted them to carry out this occupation, seek in their military and political campaign to strike at Iraq and its resurgent power, and dissuade it from its independent liberation course and its principled pan-Arab commitments, particularly toward the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian Arab people's rights, and the imposition of the colonialist and Zionist control on the region and the plundering of its wealth.

On 17 January, the forces of this colonialist alliance launched their unjust military aggression against Iraq. The progress of events of this aggression—through thousands of air raids, and criminal missile attacks targetting civilian, religious, economic, and cultural centers over the past three weeks—have proven the colonialist objectives of this alliance.

In view of the participation of the forces of the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and Italy in the unjust aggression against Iraq and their direct responsibility for killing the sons of our people and destroying our economic, cultural properties and religious centers, Iraq has decided to sever diplomatic relations with these countries as of today. In view of the direct responsibility of the Saudi regime in this aggression and making of the territory of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia a platform for launching the aggression against the people of Iraq, and in view of the direct participation of the Egyptian regime in this aggression, its providing the political cover through the Cairo meeting, and

its continued incitement of the forces of aggression against Iraq, Iraq has decided to sever diplomatic relations with these two traitor regimes.

Iraq was forced to make such a decision as a legitimate reply to the acts of aggression to which its people, as well as its cultural and civilized achievements, and its economic and services structures, were subjected. Iraq also addresses our lofty Arab masses in Egypt and Saudi Arabia, affirming to them its concern for the continuation of fraternal pan-Arab ties, and the unity of the joint struggle against the unjust Zionist-imperialist rancor. Therefore, Iraq calls on all the militant nationalist forces to assume their militant responsibility to confront these two agent regimes which have deeply stabbed Arab values with their submission to the U.S.-Atlantic-Zionist alliance.

Iraq also calls on the public in the United States, Britain, France, Italy, and the entire world to condemn the aggressive course of these governments for the war of destruction and death against our genuine Muslim people, for their undermining the relations of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the Arab nation on one hand and the peoples of these countries on the other, and for their inciting feelings of hatred and revenge in them.

Proceeding from the nature of the comprehensive confrontation between Iraq and the Arab nation and the Islamic nation on one side, and the alliance of the imperialists, Zionists, and their evil traitor agents on the other, we call on the nationalist regimes in the Arab homeland and the governments of the Islamic states to take the same step of severing diplomatic relations with the states of the American-Atlantic aggression and the Arab regimes allied with them, in conformity with the will of the Arab and Islamic masses and in loyalty to the ideals of Arabism and the values of our religion.

Spokesman Announces Missile Attack on Haifa

NC0602193391 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1907 GMT 6 Jan 91

[Text] A military spokesman has made the following statement:

In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate.

In response to the call of duty to our Palestinian Arab people and in triumph for the Iraqi martyrs who have fallen victim to the bestial American-Zionist aggression, our heroic missile force directed a destructive blow with al-Husayn missiles this evening on the heads of the wretched Zionists in the city of Haifa in occupied Palestine.

After performing their task, our missile launchers returned safely to base, thanks be to God.

All praise to the men of our missile force—officers and other ranks. Forge ahead.

[Dated] 6 February

Spokesman: 33 Raids Against Nation 'Last Night'*NC0702091491 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
0853 GMT 7 Feb 91*

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Despite the aggression and all the barbaric crimes committed by our enemies the Americans and their Atlantic and Zionist allies against our people, our heroic people are more determined to stick to their objectives and to safeguard their land and resources. They are determined to purge their holy places, which are also holy places for Arabs and Muslims, and to seize their rights and their nation's rights, using all the legitimate means of strength that serve this right and crush falsehood.

Brothers, last night the enemy carried out 33 air raids against our country. In revenge against the scoundrel Zionists, with God's help, a destructive missile strike was directed at the port of Haifa in occupied Palestine last night. After carrying out their duty, the missile launchers returned safely to base, with God's help.

[Dated] 7 February

Communique Outlines Situation 6 Feb*NC0602174091 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1705 GMT 6 Feb 91*

[Military Communique No. 39 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 6 February]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. At a time when the soldiers of right are defying the forces of falsehood and polytheism and, like ferocious lions, are waiting for the decisive hour to save their sanctities from the Americans and their Zionist allies and slaves who violated these sanctities and to force the enemies to recognize their rights, these enemies can only push their ravens to commit aggression on the safe Iraqi cities and urban communities.

The overall activities for yesterday evening and today were as follows:

First, the heroic men of our missile force dealt a destructive blow with the al-Husayn missiles to the place of oppression and deception and the symbol of hegemony and enslavement, the Saudi Dhahran air base. Our missiles pounded their targets. Then, the missile launchers returned safely, God be praised.

Second, the cowardly enemies directed their air bombardment against residential areas across our borders with Saudi Arabia and our eastern borders. These enemies also sent their planes and one of their missiles to attack our sectors from afar. There were 281 of these combat sorties.

Third, our zealous and courageous men managed to down six air targets; some of these were planes while others were missiles.

Pride is a trait of God. Glory to you, O Iraq.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command

[Dated] 20 Rajab 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 6 February 1991

Tehran Reports U.S. Air Raid on 'Heart Hospital'*LD0702110991 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 7 Feb 91*

[Text] The Central News Unit reports from Bakhtaran that Iraq's radio and television announced today that the United States bombed a heart hospital in the city of al-Hillah. There was an extensive fire that killed 17 women and children and injured 37 others. According to the report, U.S. planes also bombed residential areas of al-Hillah.

Charge in London Allegedly Opposed to Saddam*PM0602165191 London AL-ZAHIRAH in Arabic
4 Feb 91 p 1*

[Unattributed report: "Iraqi Diplomat Prepares for Asylum in Britain"]

[Text] London, AL-ZAHIRAH—For the second time in less than 10 days London has disappointed Saddam Husayn over his envoy there, that is, after the failure of his former ambassador, 'Azmi Shafiq al-Shalihi, to run the propaganda war for Baghdad. In the months following the Iraqi Army's criminal occupation of Kuwait on 2 August, he continually avoided British press and television reporters in order to not answer their questions or give statements that would serve the allegations of his master in Baghdad.

This time the curse struck when Zuhayr Ibrahim, 50, was afflicted by the same disease after he assumed the leadership of the remaining part of the Iraqi diplomatic mission in London as charge d'affaires. He became fearful of the British media and its men and organs, so he started to avoid making statements or even providing answers to questions serving the dictator of Baghdad.

In addition to this silent opposition, the Iraqi charge d'affaires expressed to British diplomatic circles his firm belief in the need for the Iraqi occupation forces' withdrawal from Kuwait, his resentment at the means whereby Saddam is running his policy, and his condemnation of his president's defiance of world public opinion and governments and failure to secure any position that can win him sympathy or support in the Arab world. To a similar extent Zuhayr Ibrahim expressed his admiration of the British people's way of life and his profound interest in the famous soccer teams.

After the failure of the desperate attempt of Saddam's troops at the gates of the Saudi town of al-Khafji and their defeat there, Zuhayr Ibrahim informed someone close to him of his satisfaction at the Saddam troops'

failure, his abhorrence of war, and his total understanding of the position taken by the international coalition forces toward Saddam.

A senior official in diplomatic circles in the British capital says: When Zuhayr Ibrahim is summoned to the British Foreign Office he can find nothing to say except for repeating what is imposed on him in accordance with the instructions restricting him. But the expression on his face when he leaves the British Foreign Office reveals his silent resentment, as if he were saying: I know I am forced to make idle statements that are devoid of any meaning!

Envoy in Paris Criticizes Western Media Coverage

NC0602150291 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1220 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Telephone interview with Ambassador to Paris 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Hashimi by unidentified reporter carried within the Amman radio newscast; date, place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Mr. Ambassador, the Western media campaign is escalating as the battles are escalating. Mr. 'Abd-al-Razzaq, through your close attention to how Western media have handled the war, what are your comments or evaluation of the way Western media are handling the issue?

[Al-Hashimi] This is a very important issue at this stage. God bless you for broaching this strategic topic regarding the Arab nation's current battle. The first comment we can deduce from Western media now is that Western media are exaggerating their imaginary victories, which have no truth to them at all. At the same time, they play down the importance of Iraqi and Arab steadfastness. We see that they are following a planned scheme. First, they follow strict censorship rules, in that they first prevent the truth from emerging, and then use this censorship to pass and reveal the information they wish to reveal to Western and Arab citizens. We see that media is aimed in two directions: toward Western citizens and toward Arab citizens.

In the first case, they are trying to convince the citizens of the justice of this war. They attempt to convince them that the majority of citizens support this war and the Western governments by meddling with polls. We see that the polls they carry out show that 85 percent of the population support President Bush. This is a lie. How do they get such a statistic? They pose a question in such a way that the majority will answer positively. Once they calculate the results, they use them as the basis for another question or subject. This does not happen only in the United States, but also in Europe.

Therefore, it is necessary for Western media now to play down Arab steadfastness and their losses and to try to convince citizens there that they had expected this much would happen. This is just another lie. They had not reckoned with this steadfastness from Iraq and the Arab

nation. Their media give their citizens hope for a bright future for their interests in the region. This is also another new lie that confirms that Western media have always been opposed to the Arab nation. How are they expected to behave, now that they are fighting the fierce battle of the future with this nation?

Therefore, the media have dedicated all their energy and capabilities to covering up the truth and concealing reality. Just imagine. You in Jordan know that their planes are bombing the tankers transporting oil to Jordan, and they say they bombed what they call Scud missiles. They shelled a baby milk factory and then claimed that it was a biological weapons factory. They shelled schools and hospitals and then said the Iraqi Army had relocated its command and control centers in these schools. They try to weaken Iraqi steadfastness by striking civilian targets in violation of all international laws and heavenly doctrines. They claim that they are trying to strike military targets. They are cowards, those who bomb land from high up, and the results are paid for by the civilians and defenseless residents. Do you remember the Iraqi woman who told President Bush on television that the Iraqi soldiers are in the south? Why do you come to shell residential and defenseless areas in the north of the homeland?

It is very clear that the forged and distorted media campaign against Iraq and the Arab nation is aimed at weakening Arab and Iraqi steadfastness. They will never achieve this goal, because the battle is still beginning and victory is close at hand. We are confident of this.

[Reporter] We thank the Iraqi Ambassador in Paris, Dr. 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Hashimi.

International Red Cross Convoy Arrives in Baghdad

LD0602161891 Bern International Service in English
1530 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] A relief convoy under the protection of the all-Swiss International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] has arrived in Baghdad in the first aid shipment to Iraq since the Gulf War broke out. The ICRC headquarters in Geneva said the convoy arrived from Iran with 19 tons of medical supplies destined for Baghdad. The convoy was put together with the help of both the Iranian and Iraqi Red Crescent Societies. Four ICRC delegates travelled with the convoy to reinforce the seven-strong delegation which has remained in Baghdad. The ICRC is still waiting for Iraq to register allied prisoners of war under the Geneva Convention.

Commentary on Cheney Gulf Mission, Ground War

NC0702115391 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
0824 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] At a time when the American people are living in a state of panic, fear, and chaos as a result of the

U.S.-Atlantic aggression on Iraq, and the subsequent number of those who died or were injured so far despite the efforts of that administration to conceal the extent of its real losses, Bush announced at a news conference yesterday that he is sending U.S. Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Colin Powell to Saudi Arabia to check on the condition of the U.S. forces in the Gulf and to report to him on these forces' situation.

From Bush's announcement at his news conference in Washington, it seems that Defense Secretary Cheney and Chief of Staff Colin Powell will submit a report to him on the condition of U.S. forces in the Gulf so as to study the ground attack, its futility, and the possibility of deciding the issue, which the head of the U.S. Administration is seeking to speed up.

But in his news conference, Bush dealt with the correspondents with complete stupidity, for many reasons. First, the news conference was called for statements about and discussion of the U.S. budget, but all the correspondents' questions focused on the Gulf crisis. This means that the economic situation, even though it constitutes the essence of the United States, is no longer as important for them as their concern for their sons and brothers in the Gulf. Bush could not evade this issue and the correspondents continued to pose questions about the Gulf, the war, the soldiers, and the military problems. This is why Bush remained throughout the news conference between the hammer of ridiculous questions and the anvil of flimsy justifications that attempt to reduce the burden [words indistinct] of the U.S. citizen.

On the other hand, Bush did not show this concern for the ground attack, which the Iraqis are waiting for. How the [word indistinct] will be if Bush starts or decides to launch the ground aggression on Iraq. All news reports confirm that the number of Americans killed will exceed tens of thousands if a ground battle occurs with Iraqi forces, which are deployed in their very strongly fortified positions and which are trained in defensive combat to an extent that no other army in the world has reached. This means that tens of thousands of coffins will arrive together with tribulations after which Bush will not be able to dodge the correspondents' questions or (?cover up) the losses.

Iraq is waiting impatiently for its decisive battle against all the infidel forces so that neither Bush nor the humiliated agents and traitors will have a mouth to voice justifications or a right to stand up for. Victory comes only from God.

Stockholm Institute Publishes Arms Suppliers List

AU0702120691 Vienna WOCHENPRESSE in German
7 Feb 91 p 43

[List of arms suppliers to Iraq compiled by the International Peace Research Institute, Stockholm: "Arms Deliveries to Iraq"]

[Text] Brazil (1979-1989): 98 multiple-rocket launchers; 1,826 armored combat vehicles; 13 radar instruments; 100 antitank missiles; 960 ground-to-ground missiles;

China (1980-1988): four B-6 bombers; 1,300 combat tanks (T-59, T-69); 650 armored personnel carriers (type 531); 720 130-millimeter guns; 72 Hay-Ying antiship missiles;

CSSR (1980-1985): 1,000 BMP armored infantry combat vehicles; 200 armored personnel carriers (OT-64); 400 combat tanks (T-55);

GDR (1980-1981): 50 combat tanks (T-55);

Egypt (1981-1989): 95 training planes; 120 combat planes (F-6, F-7); 18 helicopters (Gazelle); 600 multiple-rocket launchers; 296 artillery guns; 250 combat tanks (T-55); 100 antitank missiles (Sagger); portable anti-aircraft missiles;

France (1977-1989): 91 helicopters; 113 fighter aircraft (Mirage F-1); eight training planes (Mirage); five fighter aircraft (Super Etendard); 510 armored combat vehicles; 1,335 anti-aircraft missiles (Roland, AS-30); 85 self-propelled howitzers (155 mm); 16 radar instruments; 298 antiship missiles (type Exocet); 700 antiradar missiles; 6,960 antitank missiles (HOT, Milan, SS-11); 801 air-to-air missiles (R-530, R-550);

Great Britain (1982-1983): 58 armored personnel carriers;

Canada (1987-1988): six helicopters;

Hungary (1980-1981): 200 armored reconnaissance vehicles;

Italy (1981-1990): 115 helicopters; 20 rocket launchers; 224 anti-aircraft missiles; 60 antiship missiles; four frigates (Lupo); six corvettes (Assad), one supply ship;

Jordan (1982-1986): 20 fighter aircraft (F-6); 250 artillery guns (GHN-45) (footnote one) (This product of the Austrian Noricum company was delivered by Amman to Baghdad); 50 combat tanks (Khalid); 100 self-propelled howitzers (M-109); 30 artillery guns (M-114);

Kuwait (1984): 50 combat tanks (Chieftain);

Libya (1982-1986): 400 armored combat vehicles (Cas-cavel);

Poland (1980-1986): 400 combat tanks (T-55); 200 anti-aircraft missiles (SA-6);

Romania (1981-1984): 150 combat tanks (T-55);

Saudi Arabia (1986): 12 artillery guns (FH-70);

South Africa (1984-1988): 200 artillery guns (G-5);

USSR (1973-1989): 19 transport plans (IL-76); 40 combat helicopters (Mi-8, Mi-24); 410 fighter aircraft/ fighter bombers (MiG-21, MiG-23, MiG-25, MiG-29, Su-7, Su-20, Su-25); eight reconnaissance planes (MiG-25); 160 self-propelled howitzers; 560 multiple-rocket launchers (BM-21); 30 anti-aircraft tanks (BRDM- 2/

Gaskin); 626 artillery guns (D-30, Saddam); 800 armored personnel carriers (MT-LB); 200 light tanks (PT-76); 1,700 combat tanks (T-62, T-72); 1,280 anti-aircraft missiles; 362 ground-to-ground missiles (Scud-B, SS-21); 2,160 air-to-air missiles (AA-6, AA-7, AA-8); 64 air-to-ground missiles (AS-4, AS-14); 36 cruise missiles (Kingfish); 1,500 antitank missiles (Sagger); eight warships (Osa); six torpedo ships (P-6); two minesweepers (T-43); three air-cushion ships;

Spain (1981-1988): 80 helicopters; 200 armored infantry combat vehicles (MR-00);

Switzerland (1979-1980): 120 training planes; 50 armored personnel carriers;

United States (1985-1988): 31 helicopters;

FRG (1978-1989): 45 helicopters.

Bush Criticized for Bombing 'Innocent Civilians'

NC0702093091 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
0751 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Dear brothers: What can Bush tell the Americans, now that news reports provide irrefutable evidence that innocent civilians were the target of the aircraft and missiles, and after children, women, and the elderly have been killed or wounded?

What can he say to them when pictures and reports show the wreckage in schools, in [word indistinct], in daycare centers, in hospitals, in a baby milk factory, in poultry farms, in churches, and in the secure living quarters? What can Bush tell them about all that blood and all that wreckage?

Are all these things—the [word indistinct], buildings and facilities—on Saudi territory that he said he was going to defend against an imminent or possible Iraqi aggression? Are these things on the land of Kuwait which, they told the Americans, was the objective of assembling and [word indistinct] troops for the purpose of liberation? Or, are they on Iraqi territory, from the far north where mountain summits lie to the far south on the sea, where trenches are inhabited by the men of Iraq?

The Americans and other people in the world know that it was Iraq that was attacked and that it was civilians—civilian neighborhoods, holy places, the economic structure, and the 18 million Iraqis—who were the target of the black malevolence.

No matter how they try to omit, sensor, and ban, the truth will only reach [word indistinct] in full strength. Truth will reach people in the form of children's cries, women's tears, and the innocent blood that has been shed aggressively and unjustly.

The truth [word indistinct] is bigger and stronger than Bush's [word indistinct] which he [words indistinct] and makes him a prisoner of the falsities and prey to questions, even inside America.

This insolent [word indistinct] and the criminal and barbarian practices against the sons of Iraq will not do Bush any good.

It is not true that Bush did not give the order to strike at civilian targets and holy places. It is equally untrue that his aim was not to destroy the Iraqi economic structure or punish the Iraqi people. If he had not given or implemented the orders [word indistinct] then who committed all these massacres in al-Nasiriyah, Baghdad, and every inch of the Iraqi territory, and for what [word indistinct] were innocent blood shed and wreckage scattered?

Will Bush dare to deny the [word indistinct] blood [words indistinct]?

What happened has been committed by a well-known, exposed perpetrator, not an unknown. If Bush denies it, which will do him no good, can he bring to account and try those who had disobeyed his orders not to attack civilians and [words indistinct]?

We dare Bush to do that. However, will Bush bring to account the murderer [words indistinct]?

No Room for Neutrality in 'Mother of Battles'

NC0702090691 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
0728 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Brothers, the mother of battles is not a traditional battle in terms of its nature and results. It provides a historic chance to regain all the Arab and Muslim rights usurped by the colonialists and the Zionists. It is the battle to liberate Mecca and the tomb of messenger Muhammad, may God's peace and prayers be on him. It is the battle to liberate Palestine, the Golan Heights, and South Lebanon. It is the battle to liberate the Arab and Muslim wealth from the oil shaykhs, the agents of America and Zionism.

The mother of battles, therefore, is not just Iraq's battle against the villains and forces of aggression in the world. Rather, it is the battle of all Arabs, Muslims, and virtuous people of the world, although Iraq is the spearhead in this battle. Spectators and those who remain silent have no place in the field of the major battle between the gathering of faith and justice on one side, and the gathering of atheism and injustice on the other.

We are very able to confront the forces of aggression, and we will score a major victory for Arabs and Muslims. But if all Arab and Muslim resources are not used to counter the flood, it will, God forbid, take the spectators and the silent on its way. The major battle, my Arab and Muslim brother, does not tolerate neutrality, because the evil objectives of the American-Zionist-Atlantic forces are

not limited to the destruction of Arab and Muslim Iraq. The enemies will continue to chase every (?noble) Arab and Islamic seed.

Neutrality in the mother of battles can only be explained as (?violation) of [word indistinct] and of Arab and Islamic creed. O sons of Arabism and Islam, rush to support yourselves in the mother of battles, which is your last chance to survive, to regain your usurped rights, and to confront the American-Zionist-Atlantic forces of atheism and evil. If the (?flood) occurs, God forbid, the forces of evil and atheism will strike major blows against those who possess greater capabilities and resources.

Control of oil and wealth, my Arab and Muslim brothers, is one of the strategic goals of the forces of evil and aggression. Apart from implementing the plan of Greater Israel and destroying Iraq, the Americans and Zionists are seeking to control oil production and prices. (?Mere silence) means surrender to Americans and Zionists and means surrendering Arab and Muslim money and wealth to the Americans and Zionists. This contradicts not only Islamic law but also manly values. There is no other way than performing great jihad by world Muslims and supporting Iraq, which is leading the gathering of faith and justice.

Arab and Muslim brothers: Fight them by all available means, destroy the interests of America and its allies, and entrench yourselves with Iraq. This is your historic chance to regain your rights and protect your life and the factors of your [word indistinct].

AL-QADISIYAH on Results of 'Aggression'

NC0602224991 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1320 GMT
6 Feb 91

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Feb (INA)—AL-QADISIYAH affirms that Iraq, the cradle of civilization and humanity, will remain free and dear. Iraq's people and their pride, our heroic Army, will fight. They will fight with their teeth, with their hands, and with all weapons they possess so that Iraq along with the Arabs will always remain sublime.

In an article published today under the headline "Iraq's Heroic Army Will Wipe Out the Invaders' Calculations," the paper says: A new age in the history of the nation has emerged, and the age of capitulation, submission, and tutelage has gone forever. The genuine nature of the Iraqis and Arab is shining again, and the great leader Saddam Husayn has taken from this nature the fear and backwardness that had accumulated. The banner of God is great, under which the soldiers of Iraq, the righteous and faithful soldiers of victory, loftiness, and might, are fighting will remain high.

The paper adds: In light of all calculations and the language of facts and figures, the steadfastness of the people and Army of Iraq from the beginning of the aggression until today means that victory is within our reach and that the aggressive and bestial American-Western onslaught has been fragmented. This onslaught

has not achieved anything significant in its material and psychological evil objectives. On the contrary, this has increased the Iraqis' determination to continue the duel, and their hearts became overwhelmed with the desire to challenge, to get revenge, and to fight against all the foreign forces of invasion and their treasonous allies in the region.

AL-QADISIYAH adds: After this American aggression on our militant country has entered the fourth week, the whole world is admiring the steadfastness of the people and Army of Iraq in confronting the most arrogant alliance throughout history. This alliance has practiced all kinds of brutality irresponsibly and hysterically against purely residential areas and the religious, cultural, and production sites. The criminal force did not hesitate to inflict harm and evil on the people of Iraq. However, it has fallen in the trap of its miscalculations and its spirit of rancor. Instead of weakening the strength of the heroic Iraqis, this prompted the fighters on the front of justice to continue the holy jihad against the infidels until a comprehensive victory is achieved.

The Iraqi paper notes that the heroic Iraqi fighter, who is aware of the meaning of steadfastness before this criminal American-Atlantic barbarianism and who hears the echo of his lofty heroic stand from all the world, is preparing now to face the enemies. This is in order to complete the epic picture which the Iraqi people are drawing as well as to inflict an abominable defeat on the forces of invasion by destroying the aggression, and consequently, by wiping out the Americans and their aides and by turning the desert of the Arabs into a graveyard for them and for all those who helped them to invade the sanctities of the Muslims and to commit a criminal aggression against Iraq and the Arab nation.

AL-QADISIYAH stresses that in accordance with all calculations, it is most likely that victory will be the lot of the brave Iraqi soldier. We are fighting in defense of our territory, pride, honor, and the loftiness of our people and our Arab nation. Meanwhile, the invaders have neither any noble objective nor any real belief in their evil aggression. They are frightened of the fate of their soldiers who are thousands of kilometers away from their homeland, straying on the sands of the Arab desert, paying their souls as a price for a barrel of oil or in defense of agent backward regimes such as that of the betrayer of the two holy mosques Fahd and the rest corrupt clique of the oil amirs.

The paper notes that the mother of battles is not subject to traditional calculations and imaginary ideas on paper that depend on technology or the superiority of a weapon [words indistinct]. It is a duel that requires honorable and chaste sacrifices; it is not a (?game) or war like the computer games or the American Rambo.

The paper notes that Bush and his aides will realize when the time (?comes) and when the dust of the battles rises the extent of the crime which the Americans inflicted on

themselves and on the world [words indistinct] committing evil against Iraq and its people.

Use of Longer Range Missile Threatened

NC0702123791 Paris AFP in English 1226 GMT
7 Feb 91

[Text] Baghdad, Feb 7 (AFP)—Iraq threatened Thursday to use its al-'Abbas missile, with a range 50 per cent greater than the Scud, to strike Israel and Saudi Arabia.

The Voice of the Masses, an Iraqi radio station, said "the al-'Abbas missiles are ready to reply to the enemies of Iraq if they continue their aggression."

The al-'Abbas, with a range of 900 to 950 kilometers (562 to 593 miles), is an enhanced version of the surface-to-surface Scud, which has a range of up to 600 kms (375 miles).

Paper Says War To Last Longer Than Expected

NC0702154591 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1210 GMT
7 Feb 91

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Feb (INA)—AL-JUMHURIYAH has said that now that more than three weeks have passed since he launched his aggression, Bush has been disappointed time and again. This, the paper notes, is threatening that he might declare the ultimate failure of his aggression.

In an article today under the headline "Bush Will Hope It Was a Second Vietnam," the paper says: Iraq is still

clinging to its stance which adheres to its legitimate historical rights declared since the beginning of the U.S. buildup in the land of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] and which rejects the U.S. logic of hegemony and its evil, covetous objectives in the Arab region.

The paper stresses that Bush's hope that it would be a short war and that it would not be another Vietnam has failed him. The past weeks of the war have proven beyond doubt that it is not a short war the way Bush wants it to be. Instead, it is a long war which Bush has no will to terminate. Bush has no choice but to confront the Iraqi land force which enjoys superiority in the battle arena. It also enjoys higher morale and ardor than that of the armies of the United States and its allies.

The paper points out that the aggression's leaders have not been able to assess the casualties that the Iraqi forces sustained as a result of their intensive bombardment. The paper asserts that the Iraqi preparedness for the confrontation is due to the superiority which was not undermined during the past days of the war.

The paper expresses confidence that once the land battle starts and the results of the Vietnam war are compared with the defeat and losses of Bush's forces as a result of his aggression on Iraq, Bush will hope the battle were a second Vietnam. The paper adds that Bush will be stigmatized by the American people as the biggest liar ever known by the United States.

Shamir on Threat to Israel, Whitehall Attack

TA0702130791 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF
Radio Network in Hebrew 1215 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Report by 'Ido Baum]

[Text] We are glad we do not have to participate in the Gulf war, and we hope it does not last long. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said during a tour of Tel Hashomer Hospital today. As for the ongoing threat facing Israel, the prime minister refused to say whether we know about some secret Iraqi weapon. The threat facing Israel continues to exist, the prime minister said, but we hope it will be as brief as possible.

[Begin Shamir recording] Israel knows a great deal and is trying to learn more. I cannot say that we know everything; I can only say that the extent of our knowledge increases each day. [end recording]

The prime minister toured the hospital and its newly installed emergency installations in the company of Health Minister Ehud Olmert and the army's chief medical officer. The prime minister was asked at a news conference how the government plans to tackle the vast budget expenditures it will be called upon to make in the near future.

[Begin Shamir recording] Nothing comes free; the government is aware of that fact. This does not mean that the government has unlimited resources to meet each and every need and demand. We will do our best. [end recording]

The prime minister also referred to the situation in Jordan, our eastern neighbor. Mr. Shamir stated that Israel hopes King Husayn remains in power through the end of the war.

The prime minister also voiced his support for the British Government in the wake of the terrorist attack on Whitehall this morning.

[Begin Shamir recording] I wish the people who were injured a speedy recovery, and I wish the British Government peaceful days. At this moment, however, we do not know yet who perpetrated this attack and whether it is related to the same war we are experiencing or is a British domestic incident. [end recording]

Satisfaction Expressed With Baker's Remarks

TA0602225591 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF
Radio Network in Hebrew 2210 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Report by political correspondent Arye Golan]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir had prior knowledge of what Secretary of State Baker said today during his appearance before Congress. The text of Baker's remarks had been delivered to the Israeli Embassy in Washington this morning and immediately passed to the prime minister's bureau in Jerusalem. Avi Pazner, the prime minister's media adviser, told us this evening that

Baker's statements heralded no change whatsoever in the attitude or the policy of the United States. The U.S. secretary of state had many warm things to say about Israel, and he reiterated statements expressing appreciation for the Israeli Government's policy of restraint, a policy which Jerusalem has maintained since the inception of the war and the launching of missiles at the Israeli civilian population.

Sources in the prime minister's bureau took Baker's testimony to mean that the United States is determined to be victorious in their battle with Saddam Husayn. Regarding Baker's comments on the Palestinians, the sources tonight contended that the remarks Baker made on this issue were very general and that they posed no problem.

U.S. Probe on Demilitarizing Golan Area Incidental

TA0702084691 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
7 Feb 91 pp A1, 2

[Report by Avino'am Bar-Yosef]

[Text] The United States has asked for Israel's views on the question of the demilitarization of the Golan Heights, which would be maintained by permanent U.S. supervision. The request was conveyed to Jerusalem by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in a talk he held last week with Zalman Shoval, Israeli ambassador to the United States.

Secretary Baker also mentioned another possibility, by which an international contingent would supervise the Golan Heights, if demilitarization were decided upon. Jerusalem was also asked how it would react if a decision were made to grant economic aid to Syria in exchange for a declaration by Hafiz al-Asad of willingness to end his support for terrorist acts in Israeli-governed areas.

Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', now in London, said yesterday that Syria would be willing to conduct talks with Israel in the framework of a UN-sponsored conference.

Senior political sources in Jerusalem stressed that this is the first time Washington has raised the possibility of the United States itself supervising future agreements between Israel and Arab countries. In their opinion, the implication is that when the crisis is over, the United States will try to achieve regional agreements based on the territories-for-peace formula, while providing guarantees for Israel's security.

The American ideas were raised in the framework of endeavors toward a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict after the conclusion of the Gulf war, on the assumption that it ends in victory and with a political outcome allowing the achievement of accord and stability in the Middle East.

All of the above is in line with the remarks Baker made yesterday in the Senate, where he spoke of settling the

Arab-Israeli conflict in parallel with the Palestinian problem. Baker stressed the need for Israeli-Palestinian reconciliation.

The question posed to Israel regarding the demilitarization of the Golan Heights has not been discussed so far, and no answer has therefore been given to the Americans. Jerusalem Foreign Ministry officials claimed that the question was raised incidentally, as a hypothetical possibility. They asserted that in the same talk, Baker expressed disappointment with President Hafiz al-Asad's position regarding his readiness to attain peace with Israel. In Baker's view, because of al-Asad's preeminent ambition to head the radical Arab camp, Syria will resume its course of encouraging terrorism once the crisis is resolved.

The U.S. State Department had relayed to Israel a preliminary draft of Baker's Senate address, and, consequently, one word was deleted from the text. Baker intended to pose a rhetorical question: "What will be the role of the other Arab countries in promoting the peace process and their negotiations with Israel?" Israeli elements were afraid that the word "other" is liable to imply a Palestinian state, and the word was deleted from the speech at Ambassador Shoval's request.

Commentary Supports Defense Pact With U.S.

TA0602114291 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
6 Feb 91 p B1

[Commentary by Dan Margalit: "Back to a Defense Pact"]

[Text] In his article "The Next Surprise?" Leslie H. Gelb, the well-known commentator from THE NEW YORK TIMES, described the following scenario: Saddam Husayn is preparing an ambush for the West by agreeing to withdraw from Kuwait. The transfer of his aircraft to Iran, the Tehran encounter, the ground attack on al-Khafji, and the puzzling joint U.S.-Soviet statement raise the suspicion that such an Iraqi pita is being baked secretly in Baghdad.

The United States and its allies have to ponder what they will do if Saddam breathes down their political backs; Israel does not need to indulge in reconsiderations. Any scenario in which Saddam remains in power will inevitably turn into a regional crisis.

Israel will find it hard to enter into negotiations as long as Saddam holds the reins of power in Baghdad. It seems that Hafiz al-Asad, Husni Mubarak, and King Fahd will lose most of their interest in our conflict, because they will be forced to devote their time to warding off Iraqi subversion.

If Saddam Husayn is uprooted, however, this will open up new avenues for political activity adapted to the lessons learned from the Gulf war. One of the first lessons is that a solution to the conflict cannot merely

center on the Israeli-Palestinian level. The PLO leadership's wickedness and recklessness and its agreement to be dragged along behind the madman from Baghdad and the mob from Nabulus have created a new situation in which the Palestinian people need a political nanny appointed by the Arab world.

The United States is therefore working on a dual technique of conducting negotiations on the Israeli-Palestinian level, while at the same time maintaining contacts on a different level between Jerusalem and several Arab capitals, probably headed by Damascus. (Still, contrary to the public impression emanating from Washington, the United States views al-Asad as no less dangerous a leader than Saddam. The United States believes that al-Asad is once again preparing a military option which aspires to strategic parity with Israel, and that is perhaps the explanation for David Levi's recent surprising attack on Syria.)

Are negotiations on two levels possible? Are they desirable? With a lack of Israeli willingness to make even a slight diversion from its path as an interim move, there is almost no other alternative. In any two-level negotiations after the current war—which revealed the quantities of arms stockpiled in the Arab countries—an issue which was once raised, then forgotten, and since deliberately swept under the carpet will turn up again at the negotiating table: an Israeli-American defense pact. It was first raised by former Minister Yitzhaq Berman in the 1970's. Golda Meir and Shim'on Peres, as well as Menahem Begin, who was then in the opposition, told me then that the idea was inconceivable. "We do not want American soldiers shedding their blood for us," the political soloists chanted in unison and especially warned that a defense pact with the United States would force Israel to withdraw almost totally from the territories. They were prepared to accept it as a supplement to a political settlement that would be achieved independently, but not as part of such an arrangement and without paying any political price.

Israel, however, slowly wised up. The memorandum of understanding and the intelligence cooperation, which Ari'el Sharon (then) and Moshe Arens (now) praise, are part of the desire to include a defense pact with the United States as the central component in Israel's defense concept. It is already clear that the Vietnam syndrome will not return in the case of Kuwait. U.S. deployment is heavy-handed and slow, but reliable, and nothing has hurt the sovereignty of the European states that hosted American soldiers on their soil during the cold war.

Furthermore, we cannot ignore the fact that the military might being stockpiled in the east is so great that Israel is being forced to depend on what seems like the prophecy of David Ben-Gurion, Shim'on Peres, and David Ernest Bergmann [Israeli scientist]: the belief that the Jewish State has a nuclear potential. If in the current situation, when small numbers of missiles are being fired, Richard Cheney felt the need to use the nuclear threat and Arens

spoke about Saddam's need to be worried, what will happen when Israel will be forced to stand alone in the face of a storm on the eastern front?

I do not want to repeat here all the reasons mentioned at the time in support of a defense pact with the United States. Whoever charged that the Vietnam war showed that the Americans cannot be trusted must now eat his words. The proof is thundering through the skies over Baghdad and Basra. The main point is that such an accord must be accompanied by an American undertaking to provide Israel with sufficient prowess to balance the military dangers posed by its neighbors.

We also wish to recall that the U.S. presence here would be a real deterrence. All the arguments given at the time are still valid. It is merely a pity that the government, including the new people manning it, continues to stick to the old arguments that the territories are preferable to all of the above.

IDF Confirms Raid on Targets in South Lebanon

TA0702061391 Jerusalem Israel Television Network
in Hebrew 0550 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] An IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman reports that during the night, IDF troops raided several terrorist targets in the eastern sector north of the security zone in south Lebanon. Our troops did not sustain any casualties. The terrorist targets were hit and destroyed.

The targets were used by the terrorists prior to their departure for attacks on the security zone and Israeli territory. Among the targets that were hit and destroyed were four vehicles belonging to the terrorists. Terrorists belonging to 'Arafat's Fatah organization were deployed in the raided area.

[Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew at 0552 GMT on 7 February add that UN officers in south Lebanon told correspondents Menahem Horowitz and Hayim Hecht that "Fatah's headquarters and a large ammunition depot were blown up."]

Army Denies Iraqi Missile Attack on Haifa

LD0602234691 Hamburg DPA in German 2239 GMT
6 Feb 91

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv/Baghdad (DPA)—An alleged fresh Iraqi missile attack on the northern Israeli port of Haifa has apparently turned out to be an act of political propaganda by Baghdad this evening. "Nothing is known of a missile attack here," a spokesman for the Israeli Army told DPA in response to an inquiry. The sirens did not sound in the Haifa area or anywhere else in the country. [passage omitted]

Services To Resume 'Full, Normal Operations'

TA0602163191 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF
Radio Network in Hebrew 1600 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] The cabinet has decided that all public and government services will resume full, normal operations. The educational system and the day-care centers will begin functioning as before beginning next Tuesday. The school days that had been missed will be compensated for at a later stage. Beginning tomorrow, the entire health system will return to full-scale, regular operations even though some hospitals will still operate on an emergency schedule. Civil servants will go back to full-time work and whoever is absent from work will be charged for those off days.

Our economic affairs correspondent Menahem Friedman reports that the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs has also decided to begin allowing workers from Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza to go back to work. Laborers from the territories employed in agriculture, construction, and export plants will have priority.

The Income Tax and Property Tax Commission has been instructed to take a lenient approach toward individuals who have been harmed by the missile attacks.

Levi on Iraqi 'Atrocities,' Israeli Response

TA0602182191 Jerusalem Israel Television Network
in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Interview with Foreign Minister David Levi by Yoni Ben-Menahem on 6 February, place not given—recorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles]

[Text] [Ben-Menahem] Mr. Levi, what is Israel doing about the demand of several Knesset members that Saddam Husayn be tried for war crimes?

[Levi] First of all, we sent our message to the United Nations—the secretary general and all the Security Council members—about Saddam Husayn's atrocities, his bombing of cities, and murder, all of which are war crimes. We did that in good time. As for our right to demand a Security Council session at the time we see fit and our right to consider raising a certain motion for international public discussion of Saddam Husayn's crimes, when we so decide, we will do that also in coordination with other countries.

[Ben-Menahem] What has Israel done about German-Iraqi cooperation in chemical and nonconventional weapons plants?

[Levi] We were able to foil several planned operations which, had they come to fruition without our having aborted them, the situation might have been worse. At the same time, this action of ours whereby we halted these contacts also underscores our demand that those responsible for this be tried.

[Ben-Menahem] What do you think about events in the Gulf: Can Israel, or should it, react when nonconventional weapons are launched at us, if they are? Will our reaction be automatic?

[Levi] It is wrong to determine when Israel will react or what, God forbid, will be the price. We have been and are still being attacked. Our calculations require that we refrain from taking action for now. As to what will happen tomorrow, how this crisis might evolve, or what danger it might present to Israel—all this will be taken into consideration when the cabinet decides.

I might add, however, that if and when it makes a decision, it will find all the tools ready, including international understanding. I hope we will not be forced to act, that this nightmare will be behind us, and that the United States and its allies will complete the elimination of this aggression.

[Ben-Menahem] Would it be correct to say that there are plans to destroy the missiles but that we are awaiting a U.S. OK if and when something happens, God forbid?

[Levi] No, no, and please let there be no mistakes here. Israel is a sovereign state and makes its own decisions. When it makes its decision, it will be founded on the weighing of all the aspects and readiness for success.

Saddam 'Personally Responsible'

TA0602115991 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 1105 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Israel will demand that Saddam Husayn be put on trial for war crimes. Israel will further demand a special Security Council session to discuss the attacks carried out against its citizens and the chemical weapon threat. These remarks were made today in reply to Knesset Member Moshe Shahal's query in the Knesset. Our Knesset affairs correspondent Ze'ev Kohen reports:

In his first appearance since yesterday's absence from the Knesset session which endorsed Rehav'am Ze'evi's membership in the cabinet, Foreign Minister David Levi said that the Iraqi ruler is personally responsible for the attacks on the citizens of Israel and for the threat to use chemical weapons, both of which are serious crimes.

Referring to the fact that foreign companies, including German ones, had helped build Saddam Husayn's war machine, the foreign minister said that Israel will appeal to the United Nations and demand the establishment of an international inquiry commission.

The minister disclosed that Israel and other countries took vigorous action to foil the possibility of Saddam Husayn's procuring nuclear weapons.

[Begin Levi recording] And beyond the chemical weapons, Israel and several European governments acted together to take timely steps to prevent him from being

in control of the situation today through much more threatening and dangerous weapons than chemical weapons. [end recording]

The foreign minister added: We neither kept silent nor remained idle. Together with other countries, we acted to foil the Baghdad tyrant's schemes.

Ze'evi Appointment Continues To Draw Reactions

Arab Mayors Critical

TA0602014691 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 2200 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Only three Arab locations in Israel have sirens, and less than 30 percent of the schools in the Arab sector have shelters. That was stated today by Dr. Alexander Bligh, the prime minister's adviser on Arab affairs, at a meeting with heads of Arab local authorities. The meeting took place in Herzliya at the initiative of Herzliya Mayor Eli Landau, who is head of the Local Administration Center's Council.

Although the meeting was slated to discuss lessons of the war, most of the speakers addressed the subject of Knesset Member Rehav'am Ze'evi's co-option into the government. Nazareth Mayor Tawfiq Zayyad said that Ze'evi's appointment as minister today is tantamount to a signal from the government to the Arab population. Thus, he said, the government is losing its civilized and humane image. The heads of the local authorities concluded the meeting by calling on the government to launch a new peace initiative today of all days.

Ze'evi Defends Transfer Idea

TA0602170091 Tel Aviv Educational Television Network in Hebrew 1500 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Interview with Minister Without Portfolio Rehav'am Ze'evi by Rafi Reshef—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Reshef] Mr. Ze'evi, it is no secret that you won two Knesset seats when, in fact, your movement's banner called for voluntary transfer. I suppose you know this as well as I do, that this is not the government in which this idea could be allowed to be carried out, or am I wrong?

[Ze'evi] I believe that the ones who will open your eyes and the eyes of the people of Israel and this government will not be myself and the Moledet Movement, it will be the Arabs. They, through their acts, each time open our eyes anew. In times of danger, or when we suffer their blows, we open our eyes. It is a fact that according to a very respectable newspaper in Israel, which is not my or my movement's follower, the idea of transfer is favored by 61 percent of the adult Israeli Jewish population. I believe this estimate is too low. Furthermore, Jews in Israel believe that this idea is correct.

[Reshef] Excuse me for interrupting, but we are not near elections, and I believe that you will agree with me that

the idea is considered loathsome by most of the cabinet members, which is the decisionmaking forum, and this will not change at least until the next election.

[Ze'evi] And you will have to agree with me that in the final stage it is the people who determine what will be, and not the government.

[Reshef] I am referring to the time until this government ends its tenure.

[Ze'evi] It is true that the majority or even all in this government are openly against it, while favoring this idea secretly and quietly. Eventually, the people will have their say on whether this idea is justifiable, correct, or not.

[Reshef] With your permission, I would still like to refer to the current state of affairs: Suppose this government ends its term and you have not promoted the idea implanted on your movement's banner even in the slightest, will you consider this a failure, or are you aware of the fact that this is reality?

[Ze'evi] Definitely not. We came to the streets some 100 days before the elections; we had no money, no organized campaign, no offices, and we got almost three Knesset seats. This is exactly what MAPAM [United Workers Party] managed to do with a 70-year record and 80 kibbutzim backing it, a youth movement, and a daily newspaper. This is what Ezer Weizman got at the peak of his political career with \$1.5 million and 3 million shekels. If we managed to get almost three seats without all this, in only 100 days, with just what we preach, even our rivals must admit this to be an unimaginable achievement.

[Reshef] Let me refer you to what you said in the raging days of the coalition negotiations, when you did not like the attitude of Yitzhaq Shamir and his men, and you said: Some day we will change positions, and you will want to join a coalition I will head and I will treat you differently. When will this happen?

[Ze'evi] Yes, I said that. With your help and with the help of the people of Israel, this will happen very soon, in our times. Amen. [passage omitted]

Meridor Discusses Appointment, Restraint

TA0602195691 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 1750 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Telephone interview with Justice Minister Dan Meridor by studio anchorman Roni Daniyel—live]

[Text] [Daniyel] In a quite unusual way, you made the headlines by saying nothing. I believe this is your first interview since the intention to add Rehav'am Ze'evi to the cabinet was first announced. Some have expressed their surprise at the fact that while Knesset Member [MK] Binyamin Begin voted against, and Ministers Levi

and Olmert were absent from yesterday's Knesset discussion, you of all people decided to support a nomination that you had opposed in the government.

[Meridor] This is true. I believe that this nomination is a mistake. I opposed it vehemently. I believe that Moledet is a movement of a single banner—transfer, which is an immoral and inhuman issue. I believed that we should not add this spice to the government....

[Daniyel, interrupting] But....

[Meridor, interrupting] ...this is why I opposed this seriously and sternly. Still, as is known to all, my opposition was not accepted. Then, I had the choice; just like any other member of cabinet had. As a cabinet minister I had the choice of deciding whether this is such a grave issue that I can no longer serve in this cabinet, and I could simply resign, or—as my good friend MK Beni Begin did—vote against. Had I not been a minister, this is what I would have done. Being a minister, I come under the joint responsibility of the cabinet, and I do not accept the method that allows ministers to be inside and outside at the same time; both to share the government responsibility and criticize it. That is why I thought that if I wish to stay in cabinet, I must act like a cabinet member and support the government stand.

[Daniyel] You could follow the example of Ministers Olmert or Levi, who simply abstained from voting.

[Meridor] Each man does what he thinks is right. I do not wish to criticize my colleagues. All I am saying is that, in my opinion, although it is much easier to stay outside, a cabinet minister must share the responsibility with the other cabinet members. The severest criticism should be expressed inside the cabinet. Once a decision is made, you are part of the body, not out of it and in it at the same time. I have not changed my mind about the move taken, the difficulties it is causing, the hard feeling I had because of it. Nevertheless, I decided that under the circumstances in general, it would be wrong to leave the government, and I still believe that I should act as a cabinet minister. No matter how difficult it is—and it is not easy, I admit—we should face the Knesset and do what any minister would.

[Daniyel] Had you been an MK, would you have voted against?

[Meridor] Certainly.

[Daniyel] Unequivocally?

[Meridor] Yes.

[Daniyel] Is your opposition absolutely ideological, or are you opposed to the man because of reports about him [alleging he was associated with criminals and organized crime] from the past, which could be problematic for you?

[Meridor] I made no reference to the person himself. I did not refer to any reports concerning the person Rehav'am Ze'evi. I did not raise this issue. The only

issue I raised was my opinion that the notion of transfer is outside the range of legitimate discussion, that it belongs outside the circle of issues we debate in the framework of moral Zionism. I thought this should not be included in the government.

[Daniyel] As a politician, one may already say a veteran politician, and as someone who is close to the prime minister, could you please explain to us the timing of this move?

[Meridor] I leave these explanations to those who supported and made the move. I made my stand. I do not think there is a good time for this. At the same time, after what I said before, I do not believe there is any reason to further discuss this issue because the government and the Knesset have both made their decision, and this is the state of affairs now.

[Daniyel] Rehav'am Ze'evi keeps declaring, and his movement stated as much in its press advertisements, his opposition to the policy of restraint. I imagine that as a cabinet member you support this policy, or do you?

[Meridor] I do not believe that the term policy of restraint is correct. I certainly support, as I have in the past few weeks, the line the government has adopted. This has been my position from the start, I had expressed it in various forums, and it is easy to explain it: We are used to wars like those in our past. The two major roles belong to the Jews and the Arabs, who fight each other, and another role goes to a superpower, who orders a cease-fire and determines borders and conditions advocated by the United States or the USSR. This is a totally different conflict. The main characters are Iraq and the United States. The latter is not a coach, it is on stage. They are taking enormous risks and paying an incredible sum.

Therefore we must not follow the old pattern to which we have been accustomed, and according to which if we are attacked we retaliate in an almost automatic manner. Iraq is taking a severe beating in the framework of a long-range U.S. strategy. We should consider not whether we would like to act this way or that, but how the whole long-term picture looks. There is no doubt that the demolition of the strong, advanced, and threatening war machine built by Saddam Husayn is taking place before our very eyes, and is a major Israeli interest. We believe that we should take this fact into consideration when we ask ourselves whether we can add to it.

[Daniyel] After the very good job, according to reports, the United States is doing, will there be anything left for us to do?

[Meridor] I do not want to discuss the issues of what, how, and when. There is no doubt that Iraq crossed the red line a long time ago, and has done very grave things to Israel. There is no doubt that we have the right to retaliate, and we must find the manner and time to do so. I am not afraid there will be no target to shoot at if someone else had already destroyed it. This is no child's game.

[Daniyel] Thank you, Minister Meridor.

Arens 'Not in Favor'

TA0602133191 *Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew* 1308 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe at a Civil Defense training facility on 6 February—recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Menashe] Several sources who talked to us today mentioned Jordanian King Husayn's unflinching and absolute support for Saddam Husayn. Is there fear of a conflagration along our Jordanian border?

[Arens] The Jordanian Army deployed along our border several weeks ago. Although this deployment is defensive in nature, that army is still stationed along the entire border. Nothing has happened so far, but this is not to say that a conflagration might not happen in the future. I would be very much surprised if King Husayn tries to initiate a conflict with Israel.

[Menashe] What about our northern border, namely with Lebanon?

[Arens] There the PLO has been making efforts—desperate efforts, I would say—to prove that it is supporting Saddam Husayn and that it is fighting shoulder to shoulder with it. Our challenge is to prevent any possibility that it will succeed in doing that.

[Menashe] Minister Arens, you objected to the appointment of Minister Rehav'am Ze'evi, and yet you still voted for him.

[Arens] I was not in favor of the introduction of Moledet into the cabinet. I have known Rehav'am Ze'evi for a long time, and I respect him as a man who has made a very major contribution to the state's security. Nevertheless, the ideas he represents are crazy, absolutely crazy. I believe these ideas have no place in the Israeli Government. The majority in the cabinet decided otherwise, and as long as I am a cabinet member I am obligated to honor coalition discipline, and that is how I acted.

Arens on Iraqi Missile Threat, Rocket Attacks

TA0602120791 *Jerusalem Domestic Service in English* 1100 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens says that despite three nights without Iraqi missiles being fired on Israel, the danger still exists. He was talking a few minutes ago with our defense reporter Alan Ben-Ami:

[Begin recording] [Ben-Ami] Mr. Arens, the government is making every effort to get the country back to a normal life. Both adults and youngsters are being asked to return to businesses, schools, etc. At the same time, here this morning, you are visiting a civil defense rescue unit. To

what extent is Israel taking a calculated risk by returning the country back to a normal life, day and night?

[Arens] That is not a calculated risk; that is just something we have to do, and therefore we are doing it. We have to return to a normal life and a full production in the economy of Israel.

[Ben-'Ami] What about the danger, the possibility that missiles may still be launched at Israel during the day, as well as at night?

[Arens] We are used to living with danger for many, many years, and we will deal with this danger as well.

[Ben-'Ami] The fact that there have been no Scuds for the last three nights—do you feel that this is an indication that perhaps the Iraqi capability is over?

[Arens] It may be an indication of the fact that it has gotten to be more difficult for them and that the bombing of the area from which the Scuds were launched has become more effective in recent days, but I do not think we can take it as an indication that it is the end of their capability.

[Ben-'Ami] There still seems to be a difference of opinion amongst all sorts of experts as to whether or not there is also a chemical warhead capability for those missiles. Do you have any firm indication one way or the other?

[Arens] None of these experts have ever seen a Scud from close up with a chemical warhead on it, and this is the reason why there may be differences of opinion.

[Ben-'Ami] Which means what: Carry on with gas masks, carry on with sealed rooms?

[Arens] You see everybody still walks about with a gas mask, and I assume you do as well, right?

[Ben-'Ami] There are also rockets coming from the northern border still, from Lebanon towards Israel. What's going to happen here? Is there a possibility of a firmer Israeli reaction than just an artillery reply to deal with this?

[Arens] We don't telegraph our punches, and we don't announce beforehand what we are going to do. The PLO is making a desperate effort to show that it is also fighting on the side of Saddam Husayn, and it is our job to make sure they do not succeed.

[Ben-'Ami] The Lebanese authorities are trying to deploy the Lebanese Army back in the south. Do you see this as something that is positive or negative in the current situation overall?

[Arens] That remains to be seen. If the Lebanese Army can prevent any terrorist activity from Lebanon, it will be very positive. [end recording]

Sources Deny Territories Arabs To Work in Israel

TA0602191891 Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF Radio Network in Hebrew 1900 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Contrary to an earlier report on a ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs decision to allow the inhabitants of the territories to go back to work in Israel, security sources have told our correspondent Arye Gus that there has been no change in the defense establishment's decision not to permit Arabs from Judea, Samaria, and Gaza to enter Israel.

Our correspondent was told that the decision to ban these people's entrance was made on security grounds and that any amendment to that decision will be made by the defense establishment.

Three-Stage Plan for Easing Curfews in Territories

TA0602100091 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Feb 91 p 10

[Report by Jon Immanuel]

[Text] A gradual easing of the curfew in the territories imposed at the start of the Gulf war is already underway on an experimental basis, but could be swiftly reversed if there are violent incidents, Shmu'el Goren, coordinator of government activities in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District, said yesterday.

Goren spoke at the third Defense Ministry briefing on the subject in as many days, following appeals to Defense Minister Moshe Arens by international organizations, Israeli human-rights groups and leading Palestinians for an end to the longest curfew in the areas since they came under Israeli administration.

Goren said that the curfew would be eased in three stages:

- Allowing more plants and businesses to open.
- Enabling residents to receive money either by crossing into Jordan and back again or through any local branch of the Amman-Cairo Bank. The cash allowance for a returning resident has been doubled to 1,000 Jordanian dinars, approximately NIS [new Israeli shekels] 2,800. Current restrictions on re-entry would be eased, Goren said. (On Monday, the Jordanian government accused Israel of barring Palestinians from returning across the bridges since the war began.)
- Busing of workers on a selective basis to jobs in Israel would come, security permitting, after other measures had been taken. About 110,000 Palestinians normally work in Israel and 150,000 in the territories.

Goren said there was no food shortage in the areas, and that the Civil Administration had contributed NIS 3 million to needy families.

His advisers distinguished between towns and villages, saying the general curfew really affected no more than 20 percent of the population, since soldiers did not enter

villages, where 60-70 percent of the inhabitants live. Villagers have been allowed to move freely about and work their land. Restrictions also did not apply to the 100,000 Arab residents of East Jerusalem, who are free to travel, they said.

Thus, Goren sharply denied claims that village farmers were unable to work their lands for a long enough period of time to prevent crops from spoiling.

Urban curfews have been lifted for up to six hours, in some cases up to 10 hours, in recent days. However, Goren warned, this was experimental. "We will not be prepared to allow any show of violence. This is a war, perhaps different from the kinds we have known in the past, but a war nevertheless."

Palestinian mayors and business leaders, in a meeting with Arens in Tel Aviv on Monday, requested that he permit travel between towns and villages to facilitate commerce, but Arens did not commit himself.

Goren admitted that soldiers may have used more force than usual in imposing curfews and suppressing signs of violence, but "instructions on opening fire have not been changed." He said he had noticed an increase in anti-Iraqi sentiments expressed among Palestinians in recent days.

Iraqi Messages Sent to Territories Activists

TA0602084091 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
6 Feb 91 p A1

[Report by Immanuel Rosen]

[Excerpt] Iraq has lately transmitted messages to activists in the territories to start terrorist actions against Israel. Palestinian sources in the territories said the messages were transferred through coded announcements broadcast on Baghdad Radio and came directly from Saddam.

The defense establishment believes that with lifting the curfew in the territories, terrorist activities within the Green Line will increase. "We should expect a recurrence of stabbings and attempts to carry out sensationalist attacks," a senior defense source said. [passage omitted]

Pro-PLO Dailies Detail Palestinian Problems

Hopes Not Met by Post-War Peace Plans

TA0602145891 Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic
3 Feb 91 pp 1, 7

[Editorial: "What Will Happen After the Guns in the Gulf Go Silent?"]

[Text] Many analysts agree that the Gulf war is still at its beginning and likely to heat up further. Much blood will, therefore, be shed by the belligerent Arab parties.

Lately, many ideas have begun to surface about the region's problems, shape, and map after the guns go silent and the commanders of the armies dust off their uniforms.

At that time, the politicians as well as interest and pressure groups will sit down to draw up a map that is compatible with their own interests. The outbreak of the war by itself is a victory for the school of "dear" Henry Kissinger and his views, which he promoted from the first day of the crisis.

Kissinger stressed the necessity of demolishing the Iraqi military machine, eliminating its offensive capability, and destroying Iraq's supply of biological and chemical weapons. He also warned about Iraq's potential to produce nuclear weapons.

These voices also spoke of a disruption that might occur after the war if Iraq is totally destroyed, thus creating an immense void in the region. Then, either another power will come, or the allied forces will remain in the region. This might foment national and pan-Arab sentiments, as happened in Lebanon.

In light of Kissinger's tendencies, we assume that the chances of resolving the Palestinian problem will only occur within the framework of U.S., the Gulf states', and Israeli objectives. These objectives, hammered out in a Gulf, Egyptian, U.S., Western, and Israeli political plan, will certainly not meet the minimal national Palestinian aspirations and hopes. This means that placing the Palestinian problem on the back burner would be one of the results of this war, especially since the possibility of U.S. pressure on Israel is only an illusion.

Kissinger's tendencies have been echoed by former Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin in his article in MA'ARIV, in which he expressed his gratitude for the U.S. and allied role in trimming Iraqi power, which always constituted a permanent concern for Israel.

Israel Exploiting Palestinians

TA0602150691 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English
4 Feb 91 p 4

[Editorial: "On Again, Off Again?"]

[Text] World governments do not seem to be able to deal with two issues at the same time. They have to deal with one issue before they turn to the other.

Since the outbreak of war in the Gulf, world attention has been on that region. While this is understood, there remain other pressing issues which if neglected will invite disaster. One such hot area is clearly the Palestinian question.

Since the outbreak of the war, Israel imposed a curfew on the entire occupied territories confining over 1.7 million Palestinians to their homes. Most of the population has seen the curfew lifted every few days for a few hours, but

not Gaza. Impoverished Gazans, some 750,000 concentrated in one of the smallest areas of the world, have been allowed out of their homes for a few hours only twice in two weeks and then only the women got out. The men haven't seen the light of day since the war started, and many who are day laborers have no money now to feed their families.

Israel is once again the darling of the world. Every government rushes to express sympathy with Israel because of the Iraqi Scud missile attacks. At the same time, these governments chose to censure the Palestinians for their support of Iraq by ignoring their plight and what Israel is doing to them. The only reason the press of these countries talk to the Palestinians is to question them on why they support Iraq.

Last week, the European Community announced it was resuming all cooperation with Israel, which was originally suspended in protest over Israel's handling of the Palestinian Intifada in the occupied territories. This is European logic these days.

Last week, Israel arrested Sari Nusaybah, a well known advocate of peaceful coexistence between the Palestinian and Israeli people in their respective sovereign states. Nusaybah was placed under administrative detention for six months.

Israel would not have dared to impose curfew on the occupied territories for so long if it was not confident that the same governments which strongly protested these measures in the past and which are now showing it sympathy would stay on the sidelines and not utter a word.

Will Israel be in for a surprise? European and world governments, bound by moral obligation to the Palestinian people and a sense of guilt over allowing the Israeli occupation to go on for more than 23 years, will have to speak out, strongly and quickly and let Israel know that they have not closed their eyes to its occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Delegation Says Germany Trying To Amend Past Errors
TA0602130291 *Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS*
OFFICE in English 5 Feb 91

[GPO bulletin by "special" correspondent Elliot M. Kramer: "German Bundestag Leaders Hold Press Conference"]

[Text] Professor Rita Suessmuth, the president of the German Parliament [as published], and Vice President Renate Schmidt related the reasons for their current mission to Israel to the press. Focusing on German-Israeli relations, the speakers said that Germany is trying

to amend errors of the recent past, but that the two countries should concentrate on the present.

Emphasis is now being placed on tightening the German penal code and implementing new regulations in order to prevent illegal arms sales. Israel has been threatened by Saddam Husayn, which is shocking to Germany, even though they helped arm Saddam. The past cannot be undone, said Professor Suessmuth, however, there must be an effort to put relations back in order.

Germany will help clarify Israel's position to the European Community and during the post-war negotiations. But, Germany must also be understood.

The peace demonstrations that are occurring in Germany reflect the education of the German people, being raised on principles of peace and justice.

In the aftermath of war, arms control and disarmament arrangements must be arranged for the Middle East. An exception to Germany's policy of no arms sales to crisis regions will be ignored with relation to Israel. Yet, said Vice President Schmidt, all joint arms projects must allow for control of the end product.

German efforts have been directed towards guaranteeing Israel more recognition within the European Community and providing Israel with aid. Now, it is realized that there is more to the region than the Palestinian problem, and that a larger picture must be considered before planning political settlements.

In conclusion, the Bundestag members assured the press that Neo-Nazis play a marginal role in present day Germany, and do not pose threats to German policy.

Proof of German Chemical Sales to Iraq Sought

TA0602144391 *Jerusalem Voice of Israel and IDF*
Radio Network in Hebrew 1400 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] The German ambassador to Israel said today that for years, and until this day, Israeli defense elements have been relaying to Bonn information and proof on factories that illegally sold chemical substances and other weapons to Iraq. The information was relayed in order to allow the prosecution of German companies. He added that some of the information was in reply to requests by the German Government, but it was not always sufficient to press charges, because German law demands that very detailed proof be presented in such cases.

Our correspondent Mor Suliman reports that Ambassador Otto von der Gablentz was speaking before the Bnai Brith organization members in Jerusalem. He said that, even today, the Israeli and German Governments are still honestly interested in finding proof and punishing guilty companies.

King Gives Arab, Islamic Nation Speech 6 Feb

*NC0602211291 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 6 Feb 91*

[Speech by King Husayn to the Arab and Islamic nation in Amman on 6 February—live or recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O Arabs, Arabs everywhere, O Islamic nation, and O those of you who are beholding the flame of faith, who are refusing the insult of the homeland and are true in your affiliation, minds, and hearts, in your goals and aims, in your thought and practice—to everyone of you I extend my greeting and heartfelt love and affection.

I choose this difficult moment to speak to you, when Arab honor and religious duty require me to address you today on the eve of the fourth week of this all-out ferocious war imposed on fraternal Iraq. This war aims at Iraq's existence, role, awakening, and vigor, as well as at Iraq's right to a dignified and free life, and its eagerness to pursue its historic, cultural, and human role, which evolved in Babylon, Baghdad, and Basra as mankind became civilized and made scientific and cultural progress.

O Arabs and Muslims, Iraq is now paying the toll for its affiliation with its nation in pure and chaste blood. Iraq previously paid the toll of affiliation and blood without hesitation or wavering in all the battles which the Arabs fought or which were imposed on them, in defense of Arabs' land in Palestine, Syria, Egypt, Jordan, and everywhere. Iraq never thought of your blood as cheap. Will the blood of the Iraqis—the elderly and children and women and men—be cheap to us? What guilt and what shame will beset those who undervalue this Arab bloodshed by the fire of this unjust war?

The world has experienced difficult wars before. However, the world has never witnessed such a war as is being launched against Iraq; perhaps, it will never witness a similar war again. The armies of the world's super and strongest countries have met after the arsenals which are full with the most modern weapons on the land, at sea, and in the air, have been opened up to them. These weapons were stockpiled by one world alliance to fight another military alliance led by a superpower. These weapons are now being used against Baghdad, the capital of [Caliph] al-Rashid; against Basra, a city of religious scholarship, poetry, and palm trees; against Kufah, the onetime home of 'Ali [the Prophet's cousin and spiritual imam for Shiite community]; and against the noble land of al-Najaf, Karbala', al-Diwaniyah, Mosul, and Karkuk. Planes, warships, submarines, and missiles are aimed against every Iraqi town and village. Among the places hit in Iraq were mosques and churches, schools and museums, hospitals, and a baby milk factory, residential areas and bedouin tents, as well as power plants and water networks.

This is what has been going on since the war broke out. The course of the fighting suggests a war that aims at erasing the accomplishments of Iraq and throwing it

back to primitive life. It is for such an end that the most advanced and destructive technological means are being used. The first victim of such a war are the values of right, justice, and peace. Other victims are the hopes and aspirations entertained by mankind since the end of World War II, for it was then hoped that this would be the end of human tragedy and that human society will never once again become murderer and victim.

Our hopes and dreams as a people and the hopes and dreams of the entire human race have been genuinely frustrated as the land of Iraq has been turned into a battlefield for a third world war.

O brother citizens, O Arabs, O Muslim nation, the irony of this war is that it is being waged under the umbrella of international legitimacy. This war is being perpetrated in the name of the United Nations, an organization established by the human race to protect peace, security, and justice, and to end all conflicts and disputes through dialogue, negotiations, and diplomacy. If this is an example for the UN role in the new world order, what a grim future awaits all nations. What international legitimacy will act as sanctuary for those whom the stronger seeks to oppress, humiliate, kill, and deprive of all their rights recognized by God's laws as well as by the principles, values, and charters on which the United Nations is built?

We now fully realize the real motives for confiscating our Arab right to address our issues, and for imposing hegemony on the United Nations to prevent it from assuming its role, and for closing the doors to every sincere political effort to terminate the Gulf crisis. It is being alleged now that every possible political effort to resolve the crisis had been exhausted during the five months which preceded the war. This is not true. Had the same efforts that were exerted to prepare for this war been exerted for a political settlement, this tragedy would not have taken place, not to mention that the raging war with its destructive consequences is not commensurate with the humanitarian purpose of the UN resolutions which were passed to restore security and peace to the Arabian Gulf region. At the other end, we see that the Arab-Israeli conflict has remained remote from any sincere and real effort in search of a just settlement of this conflict. The Palestinian Arab people and their nation wait for the implementation of one of the UN resolutions that reject the Israeli occupation and demand its termination.

Although 24 years have passed since the occupation of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and the Syrian [Golan] Heights, and although nine years have also passed since the occupation of southern Lebanon, nothing we have been expecting has materialized. In spite of this, we did not announce that we have despaired of the United Nations, and the big powers continue to affirm that political solutions are possible.

With respect to the Gulf crisis, the concerned Arab parties have decided from the beginning to reject any Arab political dialogue with Iraq and to slam the door in

the face of every effort that could be exerted to prevent the issue from being internationalized and from being settled directly through tackling its causes and effects.

Every good office in which we and other brothers who were worried about the fate of our nation had participated has been aborted. Why? Because the real objective of this destructive war, as evinced by its magnitude and the statements made by its parties and as substantiated by the course of the war, is to destroy Iraq and to rearrange the regional state of affairs in a manner that would be far more serious for the present and future of our nation than what had been arranged by the Sykes-Picot treaty. Our homeland, nation, aspirations, and resources will thus be placed under direct foreign hegemony. All bonds between the parts of this nation will be dismembered, thereby weakening the nation more than it is now, fragmenting it further, and humiliating it more and more.

The talk about a new world order whose features are the destruction of Iraq and its capabilities, and the continuation of such talk during this war, make us wonder about the nature of this order and have doubts about its criteria and descriptions. The new world order we seek is the order which equates peoples in terms of their rights to freedom, progress, and prosperity and tackles their issues in accordance with the same human and principled criteria regardless of any considerations or effects. The required new world order is the order under which no country will be treated unjustly and which does not split peoples and nations but brings all of them closer within the framework of mutual respect and fruitful cooperation for the well-being of our planet and those living on it. It is the order which believes in public liberties, protects private liberties, respects human rights, consolidates the pillars of democracy, and does not deprive the Arab people of their right to all this.

The nature of the military alliance working against Iraq exposes all its short- and long-term objectives. When Israel supports this alliance; when two countries—one of them an Arab country and the other Islamic—have normal and political relations with Israel; and when the leaders of these two countries compete to occupy a forward position in the alliance and to reiterate the desire and enthusiasm to destroy Iraq, we say that when the picture is like this it will be easy to realize that this war is a war against all the Arabs and Muslims, not against Iraq alone.

When Arab and Islamic territory is presented as a base for the armies of the allies to destroy the Iraq of Arabism and Islam, and when Arab money is used to finance this war with all this generosity that the Arabs, including us and our brothers the Palestinians in light of our pan-Arab responsibilities and our geographic position, had not experienced, I say—when all this takes place—any Arab or Muslim can imagine the size of the crime committed against his religion and nation.

O brother citizens: We have shouldered our responsibility toward our Arabism and Islam as well as toward world security and peace since the beginning. We have also exerted every possible effort for this objective. We will never be pained if our reward is successive sanctions against our territory and people. These sanctions have revealed to the whole world that they are the price we have to pay for trying to avert the premeditated disaster that was orchestrated at night. Thus, the attempts to deny us even our needs for oil came as a new form of the sanctions imposed on us only on account of our principled stance, because we are not a party to the conflict or a part of the alliance. They want us to follow their rhythm while deprived of the will, justice, and capability to express our free will which we cannot abandon, because this is equivalent to our human right to breathe the air that has not yet been rationed.

Despite all this, Jordan—the people and leadership—will cling to its stand in the belief that chances for peace still exist. Jordan also does this in the belief that a return to exploring these chances will be less costly and more in keeping with principles and values than the continuation of a war that is so destructive to people and to life.

The voices of millions can now be heard in every country, including those of the alliance, calling for peace, for a halt to the killing of children, the destruction of homes, and the ban of medical supplies to the sick. I know, and so do you, that on the opposite end of the spectrum stand some political and military leaders, among whom are unfortunately some Arabs, have advocated, and still do, the continuation of this war. Which of these voices will win in the end? Will it be the voices of peace, amity, reason, and goodness, or those of war, hatred, madness, and evil?

We and some of our brothers have made a resounding plea for ending military operations and giving some room to political and diplomatic efforts to tackle the problem, but these pleas have so far remained unanswered. Before the outbreak of the war we had repeatedly warned of the consequences of such a war, the wounds it would cause, and its human, economic, and environmental costs. We said that war should be the last resort, a recourse to be considered only after all means to prevent it had been exhausted, but our warnings and pleas fell on deaf ears.

Right will triumph, God willing, my brothers. The people will triumph, for their triumph will be the triumph of the human race against its enemies, of life against death, and of amity among nations against the desire to spread and exchange hatred.

All those who have wagered that our Arab nation will be divided as its leaders have been and who imagined that we are a dead nation will be proven wrong and will lose. Our nation, with God's will and assistance, will remain strong, proud, and alive. Verily, this brotherhood of yours is a single brotherhood, and I am your Lord and Cherisher; therefore serve Me and no other. [Koranic

verse] Let us serve God. Let us remember that if matters stay on their current course, the only beneficiary will be those who covet our land and wealth, chief of whom is Israel.

The omens of spoils-sharing can be seen already. We hear and read about plans to control our resources and wealth, to curtail the freedom of our decision, to stifle our hopes, and to deprive us of our rights. Some speak of military pacts that will be established, bases that will be set up, foreign troops that will remain on the Arab land, limitations that will be placed on our progress, and a solution to the Palestinian problem that has been or will be formulated in accordance with the views of other people and that will involve the imposition of the will of the strong over that of the weak. I do not think we could hope for such a solution to meet the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights on their national soil.

To all honorable Arab and Muslim leaders: This is a call from a Hashemite Arab, a call for rallying all our efforts to stop this tragedy and to save the Iraqi people from the designs against them and our people from the plots against them, a call for ending this war. The starting point for all of this is immediate and serious action so that the alliance will cease fire in preparation for holding a responsible dialogue between the parties to the conflict—an Iraqi-U.S. dialogue and another Arab-Arab dialogue based on reason, balance of interests, and international legitimacy—the legitimacy of peace and security, justice and equality.

By destroying Iraq, this war has exceeded the limits set by the UN resolutions. In addition, the statements by the alliance parties also confirm this. Where does the United Nations stand in this?

The alternative to a cease-fire is the destruction, humiliation, degradation, and exploitation of Arabs and Muslims; trampling over their honor, pride, and legitimate hopes; and planting the seeds of hatred, resentment, and dispute among nations.

Those of us within our Jordanian arena shall remain the true Arabs, the valiant people, and real men; we shall continue to be the nation of an army and an army of nations at the highest level of preparedness to defend our homeland. If the battle is imposed upon us, then the outcome will be either of the two good things [martyrdom or victory]. Our hearts and breasts are teeming with belief and confidence, praise be to God.

From the true Arabs' Amman, I express to the kinsfolk in Palestine our great pride in them and in their steadfastness and power to withstand the suffering of an entire people being held captive in their homes.

They are denied work, medicine, and resources for daily living. However, they are the faithful, steadfast people who are standing resolutely near al-Aqsa and the Holy Sepulcher.

As for our people in Iraq, what words can match the peak of their bravery, loftiness, resolve, and their unique

power and ability to face 28 allies and 28 armies, led by the world's strongest and greatest armies, in terms of equipment and hardware? To those kinsfolk, we extend all love and pride while they are defending us all and raising high the banner saying God is great, the banner of Arabism and Islam. Greetings to Iraq, its heroic Army, and steadfast, courageous people; greetings to its glorious women and valiant children and its elderly people who are facing with the firmness of the faithful, the aircraft, missiles, and dozens of tons of bombs.

A special greeting, with all appreciation and respect, to His Holiness Pope John Paul II, for his unceasing prayers and calls for peace in the Middle East, and for world figures and people everywhere who went out denouncing war and calling for peace. A greeting of pride and dignity to all the brother Arabs and Muslims and all those in the five continents of this world who, since the first moments of war, hastened to side with life and peace against death and destruction and aggression. I also extend my thanks and gratitude for all those who are seeking the truth and working to spread it because of their concern and respect for it—the journalists, politicians, or academicians living among us who are carrying out their duty in compliance with the requirements of honesty and the honor of their profession.

In most of their secret talks, there is no good; but if one exhorts to a deed of charity of justice or conciliation among men, secrecy is permissible. To him who does this, seeking the good pleasure of God, we shall soon give a reward of the highest value. [preceding paragraph composed of Koranic verses]

Peace, God's blessings and mercy be upon you.

Badran Says Big Powers Blocked Peace Attempts

JN0602113391 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
6 Feb 91 pp 1, 5

[Text] Amman (J.T.)—The world's major powers blocked all doors for all diplomatic effort towards resolving the Gulf crisis and planned and are waging the war in the Gulf to destroy Iraq's military power, Prime Minister Mudar Badran said Tuesday.

"Had the Iraqis withdrawn their forces from Kuwait, the allied forces would have pursued them into Iraqi territory because the objective of this war is the destruction of Iraq's military might," said the prime minister in an address to heads of municipal and village councils.

"The Iraqi people and armed forces are steadfast behind their leadership, and determined to achieve victory in word and deed and not by wishful thinking," Mr. Badran told the meeting, held at al-Husayn Youth City.

"I saw the Iraqi people with the bombs falling on them in huge numbers, but they were reacting with high spirits that surprised everyone," said the prime minister. "Indeed the Iraqi people transformed this aggression

into festivities of victory and no one showed any fear nor was any rumour designed to discourage them."

"The Iraqi people are determined and patient, and they are bound to achieve victory," he said.

"It is because Iraq is spearheading efforts for the Arab Nation's progress in the cultural, economic military and scientific fields that it is targetted by the enemy," the prime minister said.

The prime minister outlined Jordan's endeavours to contain the crisis through an Arab solution. He said Iraq had responded favourably to these efforts at the start of the crisis but obstacles were laid in the path of peace and paved the ground for foreign intervention.

"We then felt that the Arab world was subjected to a conspiracy," the prime minister added.

"I accompanied His Majesty King Husayn during his Baghdad visit on Aug. 3, one day following the Iraqi troops' incursion into Kuwait, and the King's trip came in response to a request by the Arab leaders including Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia," Mr. Badran said.

"We went to Baghdad with a dual purpose: To Achieve an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and to discuss a solution for the problem," he said. "The Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council decided on Aug. 5 to withdraw from Kuwait and Iraq informed us of this decision. A few days later foreign troops began deploying on the Arabian Peninsula and only then did we realise the conspiracy that had been hatched against the Arabs."

U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney told Congress that the aim of these foreign troops is to destroy Iraq's military power and offer a service to Israel, America's strategic and historic ally in the region," the prime minister said.

The prime minister noted that Jordan had already expressed its sound and correct view about the whole matter and it is by no means directed against Egypt or Saudi Arabia or any other party.

"In our view this problem should be settled within the Arab framework and we do not support any foreign forces intervention in Arab land," Mr. Badran said.

"This view is not a crime; nor is our conviction that the return of the foreign forces to take the oil brought about a curse not a bliss to the Arabs," he said.

"Others seem to demand from us that we should not ask for our rights because the West believes it is the sole source for our survival and wants us to die or to live by its own will," he said.

The prime minister expressed total astonishment at Arab countries' response to the West in this regard.

"As the King had pointed out, our policy is clear—we are against the presence of foreign troops on Arab land," the prime minister added.

"It seems that in view of this Jordanian stand, we became the subject of an embargo and our trucks are being raided," the prime minister added. "We have been told that we violated the U.N. Security Council resolution, but we say we did not violate any resolution because we had no other alternative to bringing oil from Iraq until the Security Council has found us a substitute source," he stressed.

"Jordanians possess their own will and can solve their problems by themselves. We will continue to import oil from Baghdad despite the fact that seven of our drivers were killed and 11 injured and 31 trucks and oil tankers had been destroyed in these raids," the prime minister said.

The prime minister said that the recent measures restricting the use of fuel in Jordan aim at preserving the country's oil reserves. He said that priority in oil consumption would go to the Armed Forces and the Public Security and Civil Defence departments.

"Jordanians must find other means and ways for cooperation among members of the society and must introduce changes in their life styles and habits under the present emergency situation, and they must adapt to the new circumstances," he said.

The prime minister called on each citizen to "do his or her national duty," and said all the people will be trained in People's Army activities since the People's Army is a back-up force for the Jordanian Armed Forces which defends the nation.

At the outset of the meeting, Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Muhammad 'Addub al-Zaben outlined his ministry's emergency programmes and plans being carried out in various regions.

The heads of the local council held a lengthy debate about the various plans to deal with emergency situations.

PLO Executive Warns of 'Point of No Return'

*NC0602213191 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 6 Feb 91*

[Text] PLO Executive Committee member Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, head of the PLO's Information Department, has said that the aggression of the U.S. and allied forces on Iraq has exceeded all limits, including the Security Council resolutions used by the aggressor powers to justify their aggression.

At a news conference at the state of Palestine's embassy in Amman this afternoon, he added that despite the continuation of this war, which everything indicates will be a long one, the PLO believes there is a chance for political efforts based on the need to stop the aggression to which Iraq is being subjected.

He said the PLO believes there is still an opportunity to launch a joint Arab effort at this stage and for forces in Europe, the Soviet Union, the PRC, and elsewhere to make efforts to stop things from being pushed toward the point of no return.

Residents Block Trucks on Way to Saudi Arabia

Security Source Statement

NC0602165891 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1603 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] A security source has stated the following: At 1300 [1100 GMT] today, Wednesday, 6 February 1991, while a convoy of trucks bearing non-Jordanian license plates was passing through al-Ramtha on its way to Saudi Arabia, a group of al-Ramtha citizens intercepted the trucks and tried to prevent them from continuing their trip. The group was protesting the fact that Jordanian trucks are not being allowed to enter Saudi Arabia and Arabian Gulf countries. Several of the trucks sustained minor damage.

The citizens responded to the mediation of some officials who explained to them how serious it would be to hamper the freedom of transportation through the kingdom. This has enabled the security forces to tackle and control the situation.

The security source called on the citizens to show self-discipline, have a sense of responsibility, and take into consideration the difficult circumstances the kingdom is experiencing. The source also emphasized that the competent authorities will take the necessary measures to safeguard security and public order.

AFP Reports Seizure

NC0602170591 Paris AFP in English 1645 GMT
6 Feb 91

[Text] Amman, Feb 6 (AFP)—Hundreds of Jordanians, protesting the death of Jordanian drivers in allied air raids on Iraq, Wednesday attacked Turkish trucks filled with merchandise bound for Saudi Arabia, witnesses said.

The protesters from the northern town of al-Ramtha, near the border with Syria, blocked the international highway with rocks, forcing the convoy of 50 trucks to stop. They then started to unload the goods.

Witnesses said the trucks, which were heading from Turkey to Saudi Arabia through Syria and Jordan, were filled with sheep and fruit.

An anonymous caller told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE the action was to "protest the attacks against Jordanian convoys that were transporting Iraqi crude oil."

"We will send the merchandise to Iraq as a sign of solidarity with President Saddam Husayn," the caller said, vowing that the trucks would be returned to the Syrian border "broken and empty."

A reliable Jordanian source said police were negotiating with residents in al-Ramtha to keep the calm.

Al-Ramtha's 30,000-strong population is largely dependent on the transport sector for its livelihood and many residents have lost their jobs since a Saudi decision in September to ban Jordanian trucks and drivers from its territory.

Seven Jordanian tanker-truck drivers were killed and 11 others injured in U.S. air strikes on the Baghdad-Amman highway January 29 and February 4, according to officials here.

Jordan has been totally dependent on Iraqi oil since Saudi Arabia cut off its supplies, apparently in protest over Jordan's close ties with Baghdad.

Syrian Trucks Said Involved

TA0602174191 Ankara TRT Television Network
in Turkish 1700 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Oguz Haksever report from Jordan]

[Text] Turkish trucks carrying meat and fruit to Saudi Arabia were stoned and stopped by Jordanians in al-Ramtha, some 100 km from Amman. Some of the truck drivers in the convoy were lightly injured. We have not yet received a report on the definite number of the trucks, but we believe it is around 60. Jordanian Transport Ministry officials are saying that there were Syrian trucks in the convoy. They say that the necessary measures will be taken to prevent such incidents in the future.

Police Restore Order

NC0602213991 Paris AFP in English 2118 GMT
6 Feb 91

[Excerpt] Al-Ramtha, Jordan, Feb 6 (AFP)—Jordanian police late Wednesday restored order in this border city with Syria after hundreds of demonstrators attacked a convoy of around 50 Turkish trucks bound for Saudi Arabia.

Dozens of riot police were posted in the northern town of al-Ramtha and prevented around 500 youths from approaching a refrigerated truck that had been overturned, said a correspondent at the scene.

The other trucks in the convoy were waiting at the border post. [passage omitted]

U.S. Wheat Consignment Arrives at al-'Aqabah

JN0602145891 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
6 Feb 91 p 13

[Text] Amman—Al-'Aqabah Port Director Engineer 'Awad al-Tall has stated that the U.S. Navy has allowed a Greek vessel carrying 49,000 tonnes of wheat, the first U.S. aid to Jordan in 1991, to enter al-'Aqabah Port after waiting for 3 days at the entrance of the Gulf of Aqaba.

A source close to the U.S. Embassy in Amman said the captain of the Greek vessel could not at first present

original documentation to authenticate the origin and destination of the consignment, only a photocopy. This prompted the U.S. Navy to hold the ship opposite the Saudi Tiran island since Sunday. The captain obtained the necessary papers yesterday and the vessel continued its journey to al-'Aqabah Port.

War Against Iraq Likened to Historic Attack

JN0602122291 Amman AL-RAY in Arabic 6 Feb 91
pp 1, 16

[Editorial: "The Hulegu of the Age"]

[Text] If we go back through the chapters of history and study Hulegu's attack on Baghdad carefully, we will find ourselves before a tragedy, whose reasons and objectives are similar to those being perpetrated by the American-Atlantic-Zionist alliance.

Hulegu's aggression was the aggression of barbarism against civilization and the aggression of the desire for killing over that for life. The Tatars had come to Baghdad, carrying only their arrogance and fascism to attack, with all their backwardness, all that this deep-rooted city used to represent, its ability to make history, and the principles of good faith and knowledge. We are seeing the same picture today. The American rancor against the Arab civilization springs from the fact that the United States is a country without roots, and a country that was established over the dead bodies of its original Red Indian inhabitants. This is why the history that tells us how Hulegu destroyed Baghdad's libraries and burned their books also tells us how this destruction was basically aimed at the water networks that were the symbol of Baghdad's civilization and the index of what it could achieve throughout its history that goes back thousands of years. What the Hulegu of the age is doing,

and what his warplanes, warships, missiles, and submarines are targeting are all sources of life, beginning with the water networks, ending with power stations, and passing through roads, bridges, hospitals, and religious and cultural sites. Such action cannot be a mere act of war, but an attempt at genocide similar to what Hulegu tried to do and through which he was able to make Baghdad and the land of Mesopotamia retreat hundreds of years back in history.

This war, which is being waged by the Hulegu of the age and his coalition partners, is a war between a deep-rooted civilization and a comprehensive rancor against this civilization. It is a war between an Arab nation that carried the messages and occupied its leading position in the human community and an "American nation" that has not yet been shaped, and perhaps will never be shaped due to it being governed by the worst values and the most resentful and hateful principles. Fascism cannot create a nation, but it can mobilize killers. Fascism cannot create a nation, but it can hire pirates to fight against all values of right, good, peace, and justice.

The American aggression against Iraq will enter history, especially since it represents a disgraceful return of the Tatars and a replay of Hulegu carrying his sword, fighting the people of Baghdad, burning their libraries, and destroying their water networks because they are the symbol of a civilization that the barbarians cannot understand, comprehend, or deal with. We do not know what the Americans will have to say when, in the future, they read of how their grandfathers crossed seas to wage a war of annihilation against a people, and how they were defeated and thrown into the dustbin of history, together with all the pirates, killers, and those with a mania for sucking the blood of children after they had destroyed their baby milk factories.

Bangladesh

Awami League Chief Announces Election Manifesto

BK0602162291 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] The Awami League has pledged to make Bangladesh a happy and prosperous state through the establishment of a democratic government based on parliamentary system and accountability to the people. Introducing the election manifesto at a crowded news conference at Bangabandhu Bhaban in Dhaka this afternoon, Awami League Chief Sheikh Hasina said her party alone with its tradition of 42 years and the leadership of the war of liberation can give the country institutional democracy and economic emancipation. She said the end of the undemocratic rule through the recent mass upsurge has ushered in unprecedented possibilities of restoring sovereignty of the people and establishing economic emancipation of the people under a democratic constitutional setup.

The Awami League chief said if voted to power, her party will restore the 1972 constitution to its pre-fourth amendment stage, ensure and safeguard all basic rights including freedom of speech and freedom of press, and take necessary steps to ensure neutrality of the mass media.

The party will ensure full independence of the judiciary to uphold the rule of law and retain the constitutional process. It will repeal all black law and detention laws contrary to the basic rights guaranteed by the Constitution. The Awami League pledged to exempt agricultural loan and interest up to 5,000 taka and interest only on agricultural loan up to 10,000 taka. It will also exempt tax of 25 bighas [10 acres] of land. The news conference was attended among others by party central leaders, Begum Sajeda Chowdhury and Dr. Kamal Hossain.

Alliance Criticizes U.S. on Concern for Ershad

BK0702074291 Hong Kong AFP in English
0718 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Dhaka, Feb 7 (AFP)—A leading leftist political alliance has accused the United States of interfering in Bangladesh's internal affairs by expressing concern over the fate of ousted President Hussain Mohammad Ershad.

In a statement published here Thursday, the five-party alliance noted with "deep concern" talks on the subject between U.S. Ambassador to Bangladesh William B. Milam and acting president Shahabuddin Ahmed.

"The interest of the (U.S.) ambassador about the former president amounted to interference in the internal affairs of the country and the very asking of this information to the president of the country is also a negation of diplomatic protocol," the statement said.

Mr. Milam held talks with Mr. Ahmed Tuesday concerning the former president who is being detained

pending trial on charges of corruption, abuse of power, and possession of unlicensed firearms.

The ambassador was given assurances that Mr. Ershad was being held in "appropriate" quarters and steps taken against him were legal, sources said.

U.S. concern followed popular demands for the removal of Mr. Ershad from a government-owned villa in an affluent diplomatic enclave to the high-security Dhaka Central Jail.

Mr. Ershad, 61, stepped down on December 6 in the face of massive popular unrest against his rule.

The statement, demanding the early trial of the ousted leader, said "the United States aided the Ershad regime during its (nearly) nine-year-rule and its interest about Ershad is not acceptable."

Iran

Khamene'i Speech Marks Revolution Anniversary

LD0602150591 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1110 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Address by His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, in Tehran, on 6 February, to foreign guests attending the celebrations marking the 12th anniversary of the Islamic revolution—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Our revolution signaled the start of rule by spiritual values. There were very few people who understood or believed this message. The world was ruled by materialism and its values. Many people today feel the truth, they understand. Today, across the world, spiritual values are being revived; many of them have already been revived. Materialism, in all its different forms, has today shown its failure and weakness. Whether in the form of Marxist thoughts, or in its more dangerous form—in other words, the rule of matter mixed with force, money and propaganda that is manifest in American rule—materialism has shown its failure. The other message of our revolution was that materialistic forces did not have the power to confront spiritual values, movement, or the will of the people. There are very few people left in the world who do not realize this truth.

The greatest sign of the weakness of arrogant systems that rely on material power is this very same revolution. This system, true Islam, remained in Islamic Iran. It daily grew stronger and spread its roots. The fact that such a system can be created, can remain and get stronger every day, shows the banality and decrepitude of materialistic powers. If they had the power, they would not wait; they would not let such a power remain. They confronted us with all their power. For 12 years, arrogant systems have come to the battleground to confront the Islamic revolution and revolutionary Islam.

Today, the grounds are suitable for Western and Zionist circles to reveal many of the secrets of the eight years of the war that was imposed upon us. Today, they all admit that during the eight years our neighbor invaded the borders of the Islamic Republic of Iran, they helped Iraq with all types of equipment. Their own utterings today prove what we have always said. In any case, the Islamic Republic and the Islamic revolution remain. In Asia, Africa, and other regions occupied by Muslims, we see the tendency of Muslims who wish to return to the source of Islam. All of this means that arrogance does not have the ability to confront Islam. However, this is not enough. Muslims, especially those who can play a role in the guidance of the people, I humbly tell you: Today is the day that Islam needs sacrifice, needs all-embracing action of all the peoples. Today is the day that arrogance, with its sinister image, with its most evil face, is showing itself to the world.

Today is a day when arrogance is prepared to sacrifice some countries. Look what the Western powers are doing in the Persian Gulf region to humans, animals, the environment, the atmosphere, and the sea. They show no regard for anything in trying to achieve their interests. The arrogant U.S. power has today become a threat to all the world's nations, a serious threat. It is a government that takes upon itself to intervene in all global, state, and various regional issues, and to powerfully, forcefully get its own way! There will not be any opportunity for anyone to live when such bullying is allowed in the world and considered to be legitimate. It knows no limits. It stops at nothing. It equips the vultures, its lackeys, and the subservient against the nations. It has done this, is doing this, and will continue to do this unless the nations, with the help of Islam, stand up to it.

The world of Islam must sense two things: One is the serious and very great danger from worldwide arrogance, especially America—more than any, America—which more than ever threatens its existence, its honor, its Islam, its life, and its independence. Today it has become more aggressive, brutal, and worse than ever. The Zionists are in their hands and under their wings, and they are the present and active enemies of the world of Islam. Also, many of those kings and leaders who make their interests dependent on America, world arrogance, and the sovereignty of the West comprise great dangers for the Islamic nations, the world of Islam. Of course—thank God—the world of Islam has woken up and today senses this threat.

The second point is that if Muslims decide, they can control this threat and stop it. The superpowers pretend that their authority cannot be opposed. Once, during our revolution, once during the 8-year imposed war, and many times in various incidents, and now in the Persian Gulf developments, it has become abundantly clear that this is an empty claim. The superpowers get their way through intimidation, power, and superpower grandeur. Otherwise, as far as tangible power is concerned, if a nation wants, and makes up its mind, it will be able to thwart them.

Today, in the Persian Gulf, there is another experience on display. It appears that what was claimed by America has turned out to be a mistake, just as on many other occasions. They could not carry out their task in a few days. Several months of waiting; and now several weeks of war. [passage omitted] In Africa, states and nations can stand up to America. In Asia, nations, states, and governments can stand up to America. In all the other regions of the world, even where the Muslims are in the minority, they can refuse to accept what is imposed on them.

The Islamic nations must rise up, with reliance on God, for the revival of Islam, for the practical renaissance of Islam, for reducing the enemy's influence, for safeguarding their own nations and for the great Islamic unity and the creation of the great power that the Islamic nations are capable of creating. This, today, is a responsibility and duty placed on everyone, especially the clergy and intellectuals and speakers, the knowledgeable, the young, and all those who can take on a role in this path.

The Islamic Republic demonstrated that it is possible to act, to stand up. All the world powers confronted our exalted late imam, and he, single-handedly, with reliance on God and the support of the people, was able to defeat all those forces, was able to elevate the name of Islam and the Islamic revolution in the world. The nation, Islam, and Muslims can progress. This is our duty and responsibility. The Islamic Republic has followed this path, and will do so. Our sweet, exciting, and successful experiences encourage this nation to follow the path of God, Islam, and the Koran.

We hope that Almighty God bestows success to all Muslim nations and removes the evil of enemies from the Muslim nations, through their own will, mighty struggle, and jihad. God willing, may Muslim hearts become ever more kinder to each other.

Kuwait Paper Carries Rafsanjani Peace Plan Draft

PM0702102091 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT
AL-DUWALI in Arabic 5 Feb 91 p 1

[Unattributed report: "SAWT AL-KUWAYT Obtains Draft of President Rafsanjani's Peace Plan"]

[Text] Tehran, SAWT AL-KUWAYT—Informed Iranian sources have disclosed the draft of Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's plan to end the Gulf war. The plan comprises the following seven points:

1. Iraq will respond to an appeal which Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i, in his capacity as the leader of the nation, will address to Saddam Husayn, demanding Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait.
2. Immediately following the announcement of this appeal, Khamene'i or Rafsanjani will go to Baghdad—

where leading political and Islamic figures from Pakistan, Malaysia, Indonesia, Algeria, Jordan, Sudan, and Yemen will convene—to address a peace appeal to the other side.

3. Iran will exert maximum efforts to persuade the United States and the Western states to withdraw their forces from the region concurrently with the Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait. The deployment of the Islamic forces will then begin.

4. A committee comprising the Gulf countries concerned, as well as other Islamic states, will be formed to discuss the Iraq-Kuwait dispute.

5. An Islamic fund will be set up to meet the costs of reconstructing the areas damaged in the war.

6. A nonaggression pact will be signed between Iraq and Iran and the [Gulf] Cooperation Council states, and possibly also with Turkey and Pakistan.

7. A system of economic, security, and political cooperation (on the pattern of the European Common Market countries) will be established in the region with the participation of all of its states.

These sources said that the aforementioned points were contained in a letter which Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Sa'dun Hammadi took back with him at the end of his visit to Iran.

Velayati Meets With Turkish Foreign Minister

LD0602155991 Tehran IRNA in English 1458 GMT
6 Feb 91

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 6, IRNA—Visiting Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Kurtcebe Alptemocin said here Wednesday that Turkey considered the occupation of one its neighbouring states by another as being "against its interests."

In remarks upon his arrival, Alptemocin told reporters at Tehran Airport "Turkey's stance on the Persian Gulf crisis has been clear since the outset."

He defended Turkey's permission to the U.S. to use Incirlik airbase for attacks on neighbouring Iraq as "Ankara's respect for the U.N. Security Council resolutions." Alptemocin said Turkey was for the establishment of peace and tranquility in the region. The Turkish foreign minister was greeted at Mehrabad International Airport by his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Further on Discussions

LD0602194191 Tehran IRNA in English 1820 GMT
6 Feb 91

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 6, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati told his Turkish counterpart Ahmet Kurtcebe Alptemocin here Wednesday that "foreigners cannot be messengers of peace," and that security of the region could be provided "only by regional states."

Alptemocin, who arrived here this afternoon, said "Turkey casts no covetous eye on even an inch of Iraqi territory and Iraq's boundaries should remain intact."

The Turkish foreign minister reiterated that no country had the right to occupy another state even because of historical claims or economic motives.

He agreed that safeguarding regional security rested with regional countries but thought "we may use help from others. However, they (others) must not be allowed to interfere because it may trigger other crises in the region."

Velayati regretted that the crisis was still raging on despite efforts made so far to solve it.

He said the Islamic Republic has announced its readiness to help the Iraqi people in conjunction with the International Committee of the Red Cross according to international regulations.

Post-War Assistance to Iraq Discussed

TA0702062291 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish
0530 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Excerpts] The talks between the Turkish and Iranian delegations headed by the respective foreign ministers have been concluded in Tehran. The two sides stressed that Iraq's territorial integrity should not be violated after the war and that the conditions prevalent in Kuwait prior to 2 August should be restored. Our correspondent Serdar Dimli reported from Tehran:

[Begin recording] [passage omitted] During the talks, Foreign Minister Kurtcebe Alptemocin explained to 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Iranian minister of foreign affairs, President Turgut Ozal's proposal to establish a fund in order to assist the Iraqi people after the war. Countries such as Japan and Germany would make financial contributions to the fund, while oil-producing countries would transfer a portion of their oil income to this fund. It was noted that the Iraqi side described this proposal as a new way of thinking.

The need to expedite trade and promote economic cooperation in the region was also stressed during the talks. The sides declared that another possible way of assisting Iraq would be to include it in the Economic Cooperation Organization [ECO], currently comprising Turkey, Iran, and Pakistan.

Alptemocin remarked that other than economic cooperation in the region, nothing explicit was said regarding measures to be adopted to ensure regional security and avoid such crises in the future. The foreign minister said that it is possible that views will be exchanged concerning regional security during the upcoming April meeting of ECO. [end recording]

Alptemocin will be received by Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani today.

Ankara Radio on Meeting

TA0602221991 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish
2100 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] The talks between the Turkish and Iranian delegations headed by the Turkish and Iranian foreign ministers have ended in Tehran. At the talks it was stressed that Iraq's territorial integrity should not be violated after the war, and that the conditions prevalent in Kuwait prior to 2 August should be restored. Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's recent initiative for mediation was also taken up at the talks. Serdar Dimli from the Turkish Radio and Television News Center reports from Tehran:

[Begin recording] At the talks the Iranian side explained Hashemi-Rafsanjani's proposals regarding the Gulf war. According to this information, Rafsanjani calls on Iraq to first withdraw its troops from Kuwait and to abide by the UN resolutions. Rafsanjani said that only then could Iran help Iraq and meet with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. According to information supplied by Turkish Foreign Minister Kurtcebe Altıemecin, no reply has yet been given to the Iranian initiative.

At the official Turkish-Iranian talks, Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Ali Akbar Velayati said that to put an end to the destruction caused by the war in Iraq, Saddam should end the war and begin taking action to rebuild the country.

The situation to arise after the war was also discussed at the talks. The Turkish and Iranian sides stated that Iraq's territorial integrity should not be violated after the war and that the conditions prevalent in Kuwait prior to 2 August should be restored. The two sides also stated that they agree on the necessity of an aid campaign for the Iraqi people in order to rebuild the country after peace is achieved.

Altıemecin will be received by Hashemi-Rafsanjani tomorrow.

Velayati, USSR's Belonogov Discuss Gulf War

LD0602175491 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Mr. Belonogov, the Soviet deputy foreign affairs minister, submitted a message from the Soviet foreign minister to Foreign Affairs Minister Velayati, in a meeting this afternoon. He stressed the continuation of contacts between the officials of the two countries, particularly with regard to the current crisis in the Persian Gulf region.

According to Central News Unit report, Mr. Velayati elaborated in that meeting on the situation in the region and the latest efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran to end that destructive war, and said: The Islamic Republic of Iran will employ any effort which will speed up the termination of the war. He added: We believe Iranian-Soviet cooperation can extensively help end the crisis.

Va'ez, Belonogov Meet

LD0602145491 Tehran IRNA in English 1411 GMT
6 Feb 91

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 6, IRNA—Visiting Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Belonogov and his Iranian counterpart Mahmud Va'ez discussed in detail the Persian Gulf war in their first round of talks here Wednesday.

Belonogov who arrived here early today, lauded Iran's neutral stance towards the Persian Gulf war and its initiatives to end the conflict.

He also voiced Moscow's concern about the outbreak and continuation of the war in the Persian Gulf, saying his country was trying hard to prevent the spill-over of the fighting. Va'ez said only Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait and foreign troops from the region could ensure the end of the war, adding Iran has launched widespread efforts to solve the crisis.

"The Iraqi people are not faulty in the war and their account should be separated from Iraqi authorities," he said.

Va'ez, deputy for Euro-American affairs said Iran was deeply concerned about the allied bombing of Iraq's residential areas and massacre of civilians.

The two agreed on the continuation of consultations between Tehran and Moscow on the crisis.

Ahmad Khomeini on Israeli 'Threat'

LD0602172191 Tehran IRIB Television Network
in Persian 1600 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Mr. Abbas Madani, the leader of Algeria's Islamic Salvation Front, today met Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Monlemin Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeini. Madani stressed the necessity for the Islamic ummah [community] to maintain its unity regarding the latest developments in the Persian Gulf. He said: Developments in the region show that Muslims are not under one command, and they should achieve a single resolve in order to eliminate the aggression of those forces seeking domination.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Monlemin Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeini referred to the will of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding an immediate end to the war in the Persian Gulf region and its desire that the countries of the region should solve the region's problems themselves. He stressed: The hearts of our people, in common with other Muslims, beat for the fate of the world of Islam, and our people are firmly determined to withstand the region's future events and problems through being united and brotherly toward each other.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Monlemin Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeini also pointed to the threat posed by Israel. He said: The problem of Israel is no less a threat to Muslims than the Persian Gulf crisis. Unfortunately, with the continuation of this war, the usurper Israel gains the most profits, and we hope that the Persian Gulf war will end through the

efforts of all Muslim and revolutionary forces so that the revolutionary forces will be able to employ their efforts for the struggle and jihad against Israel.

Ahmad Khomeyni Reiterates Neutrality in Gulf War

LD0702124391 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Excerpts] On the eve of 8 February, the anniversary of the air force personnels' historic and destiny-making allegiance with the great leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the zealous personnel of the air force once again renewed their allegiance with the aspirations of the great leader of the Islamic revolution. A large group of air force personnel visited the shrine of His Holiness Imam Khomeyni, may God be satisfied with his deeds, this morning and by laying a wreath renewed their allegiance with the aspirations of the late leader and of the commander-in-chief of the armed forces, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i.

During these ceremonies, also attended by Air Force Commander General Sattari, and by Hojjat ol-Eslam Shahidi, head of the religious political department of the air force, Hojjat el-Eslam Val-Moslemin Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, made a speech. [passage omitted] The uprising of the people of Palestine, the intifadah, is forgotten due to the Persian Gulf war, he said. This is a war of greed and the aggressors seek to expand their hegemony. Therefore, we maintain our neutrality, but our neutrality does not mean we are irresponsible.

In conclusion, Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmad Khomeyni reiterated the need to obey the instructions of the esteemed leader and added: The Commander-In-Chief of the armed forces today is a fair jurisconsult, whose orders are the same as the Imam's orders, and obeying him is a religious duty. His eminence [Khamene'i] is highly enlightened and in charge of the affairs at this sensitive juncture. He will never allow any violation of our system's interests.

Mitterrand, Rafsanjani Discuss Gulf War by Phone

NC0702044691 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] French President Mr. Francois Mitterrand had a telephone conversation with our president, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, last night to discuss the sensitive situation in the Persian Gulf. During the telephone conversation, Mr. Mitterrand expressed satisfaction at this exchange of views with our president and said: As far as the French Government's views on international issues are concerned, the Islamic Republic of Iran occupies an extremely significant and decisive place, and we want this telephone conversation to open a new chapter for further cooperation between the two countries in the solution of international problems.

Mr. Mitterrand added: Iran's role in the current tragedy can be decisive and destiny-making, and we attach great significance to this.

The French president expressed hope that cooperation and contacts between officials of the two countries will increase.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani then thanked Mr. Mitterrand for his telephone call. Emphasizing the Islamic Republic of Iran's declared position on the current Persian Gulf crisis, he said: Our stand is entirely clear and explicit. We oppose the occupation of Kuwait and the presence of multinational forces in the region. We believe that the territorial integrity of Iraq and Kuwait should not be harmed. We are very sensitive about the continued presence of foreign forces in the region and will not accept it. We also do not believe the further continuation of the war is expedient.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: We have sent a message to the Iraqi president, and are waiting for an answer in order to start our initiative.

In conclusion, our president welcomed further cooperation between the two countries and said that the continuation of such exchanges of views is to the benefit of the two countries and of the region.

Bush Remarks on Civilian Bombing Refuted

LD0602203591 Tehran in English to Europe
1930 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] At a news conference held in the White House yesterday, U.S. President George Bush responded to the numerous questions of the reporters concerning the latest developments in the Persian Gulf region. While trying to somehow evade explicit replies to the questions on the unknown future of the criminal war being waged in the Persian Gulf, Bush only said this will not be a long war.

In response to the most important part of the questions which related to the allied forces' air raids against non-military targets in Iraq, he noted: We do not intend to punish the Iraqi nation for the sake of irresponsible behavior of Saddam; to the best of our ability we are trying not to destroy non-military targets in Iraq, thus keeping the Iraqi nation immune from these raids.

But he immediately added: Even though we are aware of transfer of certain command headquarters and war materials of Iraq to residential regions, we have made our best to restrain from hitting them.

These comments come at a time when travellers who have arrived in Iran through Khosravi border checkpoint and witnessed the bombing state that the multinational forces are extensively bombing and firing missiles aimlessly at Iraq and nearly all parts of Baghdad and other cities being hit by them. [passage omitted]

Basically, in pursuit of America's hegemonistic interests, lives of humans who obstruct acquisition of such objectives is of no value. [passage omitted] One question which was, however, not put by any reporter to the U.S. President is: Truly speaking, who is responsible for all these massacres since August 2, 1990?

* RESALAT Reports 3 Dec 90 Majles Session

91AS0347A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 4 Dec 90 p 5

[Excerpts] Legal and Majles Section - The Majles held an open session yesterday morning chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi.

After the remarks by representatives of Qazvin, Urumieh, Kazerun and Birjand, the Majles session was called to order.

Following is the text of remarks by preagenda speakers and legislations ratified by the Majles:

Seyyed Abdollah Hejrati, the representative of the people of Qazvin: Hanging on to the rope of velayat, the manifestation of which is His Eminence Ayatollah Khamenei, is the pivot of solidarity

The first preagenda speaker during yesterday's open session of the Majles was Mr. Hejrati from Qazvin constituency. [Passages omitted on praising women and situation of Palestinians in Israel]

In continuation he added: The resurrected nation of Palestine has well realized that no longer the assertion of political players—who claim support for Palestine while, in practice, recognize the usurper regime and bow to the White House—is valid.

The United Nations and its rulers [governments]—who did nothing except keeping shamefully silent after Iraq's transgression against Iran—have sealed their lips with silence concerning the unbridled brutalities and savageries of the usurping regime of Palestine. After the savage massacre of innocent Muslim worshipers during the Friday Prayer in the beloved Qods, the condemnation of Israel by the United Nation was vetoed by the world-devouring America. Also, once again, during the previous week the United Nations resolution condemning the usurper regime was vetoed by the aggressor America.

However, since the interests of the world arrogance, led by America, have been endangered after Iraq's transgression against Kuwait, all of the arrogant [powers] are mobilized and one after another resolutions are passed. Yes, this is where Palestinian nation has well realized that [the expression] "defense of human rights" and the term "terrorist" are only words at the disposal of arrogance and for safeguarding their illegitimate interests.

The speaker then contended that the recent report by Galindo Pohl (Human Rights Commission representative) is void of justice and fairness, and said: Indeed, what kind of payment is this to an organization which has the protection of interests of the arrogance as its

philosophy of existence? There are those who warn that if we do not pay heed to their illegitimate wishes, the outcome of the UN envoy's report will be what they have already decided. Therefore, it is required of the officials of the esteemed government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to endeavor for liberation of deprived and down-trodden nations of the world by adopting correct policies and clear propaganda concerning what is being perpetrated by the world arrogance. [They should assert that] the oppressors of the world do nothing except plundering national and cultural wealth of the oppressed nations and, at the end, they shall try to rationalize their anti-human deeds by shedding crocodile tears. Considering the chaotic condition in the Persian Gulf region and the not-so-unexpected developments of recent days, alertness and complete preparation is required.

Not even twenty four hours from the passing of the UN resolution allowing the aggressor America and its allies to resort to force in case Iraq does not leave Kuwait within the prescribed deadline when—amidst surprise and bewilderment of political and military observers of the world—we witness the American message to Iraq concerning direct talks, trips by foreign ministers of both countries and [holding] talks with the [other side's] chief [of state]. Is this direct negotiation or a deal over Kuwait? [This is why we] must diligently follow up the regional issues.

He then added: By ever more mobilizing popular forces in the framework of the twenty-million-man army, mobilizing the downtrodden and the armed forces [we should] be prepared to confront any type of development.

Concerning high prices and inflation, the representative of the people of Qazvin said: In connection with inflation and high prices, on one hand, and increases in the civil servants' salaries, on the other hand, there has been much discussions in the past few months. Official and various individuals have given various interviews and have discussed the situation from their own perspective. However, the one thing that can bring about harmony and balance to income and buying power of the people is none other than equilibrium in supply and demand. It means that, as the income and buying power of the society increases there should be a parallel increase in production in order to prevent decrease in buying power. Therefore, it is expected that the serving government of His Excellency Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani to present the Coordinated Compensation Bill to the Majles—as he stated in his meeting with deputies of the Majles on 69/9/7 [28 Nov 90] and in the sermons of the Friday Prayer on 69/9/9 [30 Nov 90]—on the basis of sub-article 22 of the first program and in such a way that all organs, institutions and public sector companies that take advantage of the government's general budget would be able to forecast the income of the employees of the Islamic Republic in proportion with the work they perform. This helps specially the teachers, who play an indescribable and important role in building the culture of the society and forces of the revolution, to find their true position. In this connection, control and supervision

of the government over prices and services offered the people plays a very important role. In other words, the three factors of production, income and healthy supervision will create the appropriate grounds for creation of a healthy economy and suitable atmosphere for the blossoming of hidden talents.

In conclusion he made reference to the unity in expression and said: The unity of expression on which the imam of the nation (may God's peace be upon him) emphasized on various occasions, and directed the attention of officials to this important task, is also prevalent today under the present critical and sensitive circumstances in the region and during this remaining phase of economic rehabilitation in the aftermath of the eight years of imposed war and the ensuing unique conditions. It also necessitates that we all be advocates for creation of unity and Islamic brotherhood. It is obvious that the pivot of this solidarity, at this time, is grappling at the line of velayat [guardianship] the symbol of which is the exalted leader of the revolution and the leader of the cause of the world Muslims, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i. Any and all statements and expressions shall be acceptable only if play an effective role in closing ranks with this pivot of solidarity and deliverance.

In conclusion, he offered several reminders to the Ministries of Roads & Transportation, Reconstruction Crusade, Health, Treatment and Medical Training, Education and Training, the Housing Union and the Employment Affairs Organization in connection with the problems and issues facing his constituency.

Beytollah Jafari, the representative of the people of Urumieh: We shall all join hands to rebuild the country and please the afflicted people

Mr. Beytollah Jafari from the constituency of Urumieh was the second preagenda speaker during yesterday's open session of the Majles. [passage omitted on religious comments]

While glorifying the Basij Week, he said: The Deputy Commander of Iraq's Armed Forces has said that they do not fear fighting with American mercenaries because they are a bunch of womanizing, pleasure-seeking and weak people but they feared fighting against combatants and Basijis [Iranians] who—with thirsty lips and empty stomachs, seeking divine assistance from Hoseyn [the Prophet's grandson] and with faith in their sacred objective—walked on mines and went under tanks without any fear of martyrdom.

He added: From here, I ask the officials to consider the value of the Basij and mobilize the twenty-million-man Basij for the purpose of struggling against arrogance, against the usurpers of the first worship shrine of Islam [Jerusalem] and Palestine or else, as witnessed by the statement of our late imam, they shall be subject to agony and God's anger.

In continuation, Mr. Jafari said: We should not be unkind to those who have been liberated from enemy

bondage or subject them to formalities and hindrances of bureaucracy—which is none but the culture of problem-making rather than problem-solving. We ask the officials of Urumieh to refrain from creating more hindrances in the path of endeavors and services of the [freed] POWs and abstain from subjecting the interests of the gracious POWs to factional tendencies. I ask the gracious brothers in the Martyrs Foundation to stop their foot-dragging in regards to appointment of a new administrator [for Urumieh].

In continuation, the representative of the people of Urumieh pointed out: Among important issues concerning the West Azarbaijan Province is the swift appointment of a Hezbollahi, obedient to the guardian of the cause of Muslims [Khamene'i] and capable governor-general. What I know about Mr. Nuri, the esteemed minister of interior, is that he is a wise and capable manager. I hope he chooses someone untainted and removed from any specific individual or group tendency. People despise such instigations and the Muslim nation is obedient to the guardian of the cause of Moslems. He then pointed out the problem of fuel in the cold region of Azarbaijan and said: Despite all emphasis, people are still complaining about fuel shortages. Especially, the autumn harvest is still [not completed]. Recently I visited a village where several [agricultural] tractors were sitting useless because of shortages of fuel, tires and spare parts. Farmers were standing by idly. This is a common problem. Of course, in line with our legal duties and powers, we, a group of Azarbaijan deputies, have asked questions from the esteemed minister of petroleum concerning these shortages and, perhaps, faults. Soon he should avail himself to the Majles to answer these questions.

He added: Another problem of farmers is 140 thousand tons of apples which, for years, has been mentioned time and again from behind this podium as the main problem of the province but, it seems, there are no hearing ears. Letters have been sent out regularly but no movement by any of the officials have been noted. O God! You witness how the result of the toil of urumieh growers is being wasted before the very eyes of all the officials.

In connection with the problem of inflation and high prices, the speaker said: The income of deprived sectors, especially civil servants, is fixed while prices have been increasing. Something must be done so that salary increases are coupled to price control and reductions. Otherwise, if the race between inflation and salary increases continues, inflation shall win as before. Here I shall give a friendly and humble notice to my colleagues, the deputies, and the capable government of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani. Instead of ideological rivalries and factional settling of scores, let's think about our compatriots and constituents who are struggling with poverty in the flames of high prices. Resolve the problems with wisdom and piety. Backwardness, appearing in any color and shape and through any deceiving slogan, has failed in practice. Tribunes shall not be turned into places for

unfounded and problematic discussions. It is only befitting them to be the pivot of solidarity of world Muslims and, even, the key for the downtrodden all over the world. The enemy is sitting in ambush and is under no obligation to refrain from attacking our heritage. If we are [true] Muslims, Hezbollahi and followers of the late imam and the exalted leader of the revolution [we must consider that] they expect deeds from us and not slogans uttered from two opposing sides. The country requires a unison and blissful move. Problems cannot be solved only through Majles being the supreme power or government [executive branch] being the pivot [around which everything revolves]. We must all join hands and reconstruct the country which is stricken by war, flood, earthquake, and inflation, and we should please the afflicted people. [passage omitted, poetry]

If some officials wish to ignore the concerned and constructive views of the Majles or some deputies throw monkey wrench in governmental machinery, the winner shall be America and its allies and certainly the people shall curse and damn both [the Majles and the executive branch].

He added: Today, the hard working civil servants are so distressed that they have no tolerance for seeing or hearing our squabbles. They are waiting for reduction in [the rate of] inflation along with increase in wages and the rest is an exercise in futility. Specifically, the noble educators are among sectors that played a larger role in the revolution and suffered during the imposed war. They have put up with all kinds of shortages and this is easily recognized in their dedication to the Islamic regime and following the guardian of the cause of the Muslims. The alert and wise educators know that actions which result in the pleasure of the enemies of Qoran and the House of the Prophet shall be avoided so that hypocrites and yesterday's bankrupt politicians do not feel that today they have a foothold. Stating organizational concerns within the legal framework and without giving any excuse to opportunists is a correct undertaking which has been considered by the Majles and the government previously and, presently, the endeavors of officials in executive and legislative branches are close to bearing fruit. Increase in fringe benefits prescribed in the [year] 69 [starting 21 Mar 90] budget supplement, presentation of the the Compensation Coordination Bill—which is expected to pass shortly by esteemed deputies and, God willing, shall be implemented as of the start of the year 70 [21 Mar 91]—composing a tax structure for salary earners and considering the fringe benefits for toiling teachers in deprived tribal and war-stricken areas are among these undertakings. God willing, payment of 3 percent to 7 percent fees for educators' housing mortgages shall be among these [as well] and, as far as yours truly knows, in all these the interests of educators is foremost in consideration and there is no cause for concern. Of course, what was stated has to be followed up and expedited by deputies and the dear officials of government. There is no room for wasting time and, God willing, in the time left until Nawruz [the Persian new year], it should be acted in such a way that, by observing our sincere efforts, this dear group can be assured about the existence of the belief that

education is the foundation of the revolution and the Islamic society and it is through education that the fabric of our future is formed. The brave high-ranking military officers, knowledgeable university professors and expert specialists in organizations, adequately paid to serve, are all under the shadow of the toil and endeavors of teachers, educators and instructors who—with their graciousness, generosity and absolute belief in importance of mankind within the world view of monotheism—have been carrying the sacred banner of education and training on their shoulders.

In conclusion, as a member of the education and training committee, he asked educators to prove once again their graciousness and consider themselves guardians for safe-keeping and protecting the Islamic regime and defenders of the Majles and the working government.

He also said: Through orderly and pious service prove to them that your character is based on the model you have learned from exalted prophets and great leaders of Islam.

Mohammad Baqeri-Nejadianfar, the representative of the people of Kazeroun

The third preagenda speaker during yesterday's open session of the Majles was Mr. Baqeri-Nejadianfar from Kazeroun constituency. At the outset, he made reference to a passage from the valuable collection of sayings of the late imam (may his soul be placed in heaven) which reads: "One must take refuge with God for protection against the pretenders of holiness who profess to be on the side of the religion and velayat while asserting that all others are sacrilegious and, thus, with their deception destroy the content and spirit of Islam and the revolution."

Then, in continuation he added: Brothers and sisters, esteemed deputies of the Majles and the whole of the Iranian nation; for the past nearly three years I tried to avoid informing the world about the innocence [and persecution] of the people of Kazeroun.

Many times I cried out quietly in the Majles. I cried out in my preagenda speeches and to all the officials. I passed a message to his eminence the imam (may his soul be placed in heaven), through Ayatollah Karrubi, that what is one supposed to do in the face of someone's unjust action against all aspirations of prophets and the pure Islam? I did not receive a reply. After eleven years of revolution, on the anniversary of the martyrdom of innocent Fatemeh Zahra (God's peace be upon him) and her gracious martyred descendent, the great Modrress, a commemorative gathering was organized in the city of Kazeroun. The hero of the revolution and friend of the imam [no name mentioned], the one who—in the path of Islam and against Zionism and arrogance—has been the cause of honor for the history of Islam was invited [to speak]. Regretfully, we witnessed that the one from among the same people who for the past ten years have oppressed our innocent nation by the most severe belligerent acts and those who locked the doors of the mosque where the fortieth day of the martyrdom of Mostafa [Khomeyni's son] (who was the future hope of Islam) was

going to be held during the reign of Taghut [the late Shah of Iran]—leading to the ensuing breaking of the locks by the people—has ordered the same mosque to be closed. He is the one who claims adherence to Islam and velayat. Some thugs were sent atop the minaret to throw down stones and [some] were ordered to attack [the people] down bellow and chant [negative] slogans. O God! I do not know where to take my petition for justice? O Lady Zahra, the innocent lady of the two worlds, the essence of the Immaculate Five, we take refuge with you. In the name of the innocence of your son Hoseyn, answer the innocent call of the our people wherever they may be.

Abolhassan Haerizadeh, the representative of the people of Birjand: We hope to offer a small service to the deprived and the downtrodden by implementing the objectives of the Constitution

The fourth and last preagenda speaker during yesterday's open session of the Majles was Mr. Seyyed Abolhassan Haerizadeh from Birjand constituency. [passage omitted on expressing dismay about the human-rights report].

He added: The Voice and Vision and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are duty-bound to better broadcast and intensify the reflection of the hatred of our Islamic nation toward America, Israel and their assistants. [passage omitted on religious, political historical events]

In continuation, Mr. Haerizadeh added: We hold dear the arrival of the days of unity between universities and seminaries. Our late imam said: "The main targets of our enemies are the clergy, academicians and students." Imam stated: "These are fearful now about the unity of students and clergy because solidarity and cooperation of these two sectors means the solidarity of the whole nation." We shall act according to the imam's directives. If several thousand students wish to listen to several learned clergy in the university, why a few cattlemen should cuss at them, show disrespect and disrupt the gathering—like what happened recently in the Tehran University? Several people disrupted the speeches of Ayatollah Khalkhali and Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Bayat. These two great men are representatives of the Majles. And now, Mr. Baqeri-Nejadian stated that the speech of Mr. Mohtashemi in Kazeroun has been disrupted and he has been treated so badly. Or, the [incident at] Al-Zahra University, which is composed of pious and revolutionary girls and ladies who follow the line of the imam, seek justice and are very active in social, political and religious affairs. A while back, the Azad [Free] University had refused to evacuate the girls dormitory of Al-Zahra and these [girls] did not have the power to secure another one [dormitory]. They [the girls] took it upon themselves to act and [finally] they redeemed what was rightfully theirs and, while a few arms and heads were broken, they took [the dormitory] from the grips of the Azad University. Why for holding a religious gathering they should bring reinforcements from Mashhad's Narjes School and two theological centers in Tehran? Why should the feelings of the female students be hurt and suspicion be caused between seminaries and universities? Why should there be such a bad

clash with a respected learned person? Or, why Mr. Haeri-Shirazi, the esteemed Friday Prayer Leader of Shiraz, should interfere in the students' march on 13 Aban [4 Nov]—which is for the students only—and result in other incidents leading to assertions that the pious university students are hand-in-hand and eye-in-eye with girls? This is not the type of sermon that breaks the ranks of enemies. This is a solidarity-breaking sermon.

In conclusion, while offering congratulations on the occasion of anniversary of ratification of the Constitution, he said: If all issues stated in the Constitution are implemented, the lot of the downtrodden and other can be easily improved. There are many problems in the society and the sexual problems are of minor importance and other difficulties take precedence over them. For instance, if women and men engage in temporary marriage, what happens to girls? Such matters require logical and correct planning. We hope to offer a small service to the deprived and the downtrodden by implementing the objectives of the Constitution.

Legislations

The report of yesterday's open session of the Majles by the parliamentary correspondent of RESALAT indicates that, the report of health and improvement committee concerning the bill allowing the Oppressed and the Self-Sacrificing Devotees Foundation[s] of the Islamic Republic to take advantage of the facilities prescribed in the amendment to the Law for Releasing Medical and Emergency supplies needed by the Martyrs Foundation was put forward as the first item on the agenda and was passed by deputies.

Based on the single article in this bill, according to this law, the Oppressed and Self-Sacrificing Devotees Foundation of the Islamic Revolution is authorized to utilize the facilities prescribed in the amendment to the Law of Tariffs for Releasing Medical and Emergency Supplies Required by the Martyrs Foundation—which was passed by the Majles on 1366/8/3 [25 Oct 87]—for the import and releasing of medical supplies needed by Self-Sacrificing Devotees [Foundation] of the Islamic Revolution. The second item on the agenda of yesterday's open session of the Majles was the dissolution of the committee on inquiries and turning over its powers and duties to appropriate committees. After remarks by proponents and opponents of this plan, the continuation of investigation of this bill was postponed until the next session of the Islamic Consultative Majles.

* RESALAT Reports 26 Nov 90 Majles Session

91AS0306A Tehran RESALAT in Persian
27 Nov 90 p 5

[Excerpts] Report on yesterday's open session of the Majles.

Legal and parliamentary division: The open session of the Majles was held yesterday morning with Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi presiding.

In this session, following the statements of the representatives of Qom and Qasr-e Shirin, the Majles went into session. In yesterday's session of the Majles, the single article and the notes to the budget amendment bill and the proposal to create university facilities for the freed war prisoners were ratified. The Guards Corps employment bill was also ratified.

Below, you shall read the pre-agenda speeches and the ratifications of the Majles.

Sadeq Khalkhali, the Representative of the People of Qom

The decrees and writings of the Imam are a model and charter that must always be observed in our social and political life.

The first pre-agenda speaker of the open session of the Majles yesterday was Mr. Sadeq Khalkhali, from the Qom electoral district.

He said: We must not forget that the decrees and writings of the Imam are a model and charter that must always be observed in our social and political life.

He added: Because statements have been made concerning the letter written by the Imam, I will read it directly for the Iranian nation in order that they may judge whether this letter must remain buried or be the charter for freedom and humanity during the political life of the politicians of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Mr. Khalkhali then read the text of the letter as follows.

In the name of the Almighty

Honorable Religious Jurists of the Council of Guardians—"May Your Virtues Increase":

With greetings and wishes for your success and that of all those whose hearts beat for the victory of Islam. At times it seems that some of the honorable gentlemen interfere in issues, which could weaken the Council of Guardians. The honorable religious jurists must note that they should not interfere in issues that are the basis of quarrels. For example, it is not worthy of the Council of Guardians, or even the person of Mr. Khaz'ali, to act with hostility towards various individuals. Obviously, it is clear that on the pulpit or anywhere else it is religiously forbidden to accuse a Muslim of being a communist. How can one religiously justify such an insult and commit such a great sin against a Muslim who is the representative of the people of Tehran, and from a person who is a member of the Council of Guardians? When you act this way, do you still expect extremist revolutionary young people to respect you? If a person comes to the Council of Guardians and says, Even if I have committed a sin, I repent, has such a person acted properly or has the person who reports this on the pulpit as the weakness of a representative? The argument is not about whether the representatives or other people are good or bad. The argument is about sinning and going on the wrong path. We must all be careful not to become an instrument in the hands of political players. Efforts must

be made to avoid the gentlemen being presented as violent preachers who are prepared to go to such an extent.

Do not say: They speak badly to us, and we respond to them with such statements. Those who speak badly to you do not hold a sacred position in the Council of Guardians. You are sitting in a place in which you must solve many problems through your silence and dignity. Be careful not to suddenly come to the realization that the Hojatiyyeh Society members have destroyed everything you have. I am fond of you gentlemen, but I find it necessary to occasionally remind you of a problem that I see.

Greetings to you and God's mercy and blessing.

Ruhollah al-Musavi al-Khomeyni

After reading the letter of the Imam, Mr. Khalkhali said: After the election for the third Majles, these problems existed, and the Imam spoke on these issues at the time. A group of 99 people, both in the Majles and outside it, advised opposition to the Imam at the time. Now, in the Majles and outside the Majles and in all the cities, from Shiraz to Mashhad, Gorgan, Kermanshah, Tehran, Qom, Masjed-e Imam, the Tehran Haj Abolfath School, the Martyr Motahhari school, and other places, they are trying under the pretext of supporting the leader to present this group, that is, the progressive, advancing, free and self-sacrificing spectrum, as opponents of the religious guardian.

I will not say anything about myself. There have also been a few people in Qom who have done things. I truly thank the people and seminary students in Qom who did not participate in those fabricated demonstrations. At the point of entry to the Friday prayers, they had assembled. I was told that there were 150 men and 7 women. It is not proper for the situation to go so far that even if the head of the judicial branch wishes to speak in a university, the girls line up and, by shouting salutations, do not allow him to speak.

He added: What is the meaning of this, when 12,000 students invite us to speak, I cowboy is sent to insult 12,000 people under the pretext of supporting the grand leader? Such things cannot be ignored—for the honorable representative of Kermanshah, who is a useful and moral person, to be provoked here against the Kermanshah Friday prayers and for the Friday imam of Kermanshah to make a speech?

Mohammad Hoseyn Jahangiri, the Representative of the People of Qasr-e Shirin

The second pre-agenda speaker in yesterday's session of the Majles was Mr. Jahangiri, the representative of Qasr-e Shirin. [Passage omitted on the usual condemnation of the United States for oppressing the nations,

especially Muslim nations, and the need to avoid relations with the United States.]

Mohammad Hoseyn Jahangiri, the Representative of the People of Qasr-e Shirin

Today the world watches our resistance and preparedness, and we must not suffer from weakness and self-alienation.

The speaker added: I declare that the blind-hearted hypocrites hand-trained by the United States, after the acceptance of Resolution 598, wanted to overthrow the Islamic revolution. But the vengeful God, with the able and powerful hands of the brave people of Iran, on the Mersad Pass [reference to Quranic verse on God's revenge] tossed this sinister force into the abyss of the valleys to Hell. The United States must expect a grand Mersad in the straights of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf. "For thy Lord is on a watch-tower" [Quranic verse].

Today, we are faced with a difficult and great test. May God grant us awareness.

Concerning the resumption of relations between Iran and England, the speaker said: England must know that establishing relations with Islamic Iran does not mean ignoring the decree of the Imam concerning the execution of Salman Rushdie, and it must know that the Muslims in the world, particularly our uprisen nation, will pursue this moment by moment until the ultimate results have been obtained.

In another part of his speech, he said: Today, we are at a very sensitive, fateful point. We need unity more than in the past. The brothers in charge, the people in the government, those in the Majles and everyone else must know that their statements will be judged before God on Judgment Day, if in playing politics in the Majles they commit themselves to not raising any issue in connection with weakening the factions loyal to the principles, Islam and the line of the Imam, but elsewhere it is heard that they raise conflicting issues which are not in the interest of the society and the revolution.

He pointed out: I request of the honorable representatives, the officials and the honorable preachers that, as the grand leader clarifies and interprets in his valuable speeches the line of uncompromising, pure Mohammadan Islam and the line of the Imam as opposed to American Islam, in order to encourage and preserve the idealism of the Islamic nation, especially the Hezbollah, they raise this issue in their speeches.

I request of Mr. Karrubi as the honorable speaker of the Majles, who is trusted by the leader and the honorable representatives of the Islamic nation, that he privately inform the grand leader of the issues related to the Majles, and if his honor has a directive for the honorable representatives, it shall be communicated through Your Excellency so that, God forbid, some individuals would not falsely accuse the sincere representatives who are obedient to the religious guardian.

Mr. Jahangiri also said: Today, weakening the officials, weakening the Majles, weakening the representatives of the religious guardian in the organization and offices and also the representatives of the religious guardian and the honorable Friday imams of the provinces and provincial cities, in one word, weakening the line of the Imam, is not in the interest of Islam and the revolution. I myself witnessed how in the Province of Bakhtaran a poisonous climate was created against the honorable representative of the religious guardian and honorable Friday imam of Bakhtaran, Ayatollah Zarandi, this revered and virtuous scholar, a person who always defends pure Mohammadan Islam and is a source of strengthening the morale of the Hezbollah combatants in the region. He has devoted himself round-the-clock to Islam, the revolution, the downtrodden and the oppressed. It is not proper, God forbid, for him to be a target of insults and accusations out of ill will or jealousy and for him to be accused of placing the Friday prayer podium at the disposal of a particular faction. They had better specify which faction it is. Are they those personalities who travel to the Province of Bakhtaran to encourage the border-dwelling Hezbollah people of that province and make speeches that they belong to a particular faction? They should not be targets of such reprehensible behavior and unkindness. The Hezbollah, particularly those who have been suffering for supporting the guardianship of the religious jurisconsult, will not tolerate such actions.

Legislations

The report by the parliamentary correspondent of RESALAT on the open session of the Majles yesterday indicates that the proposal to amend some of the articles of the law on the organization of the national Islamic councils ratified on 1/9/1361 [22 November 1982] and the amending law of the organization of the national Islamic council and the elections of those councils ratified on 29/4/1365 [20 July 1986] and returned from the Council of Guardians were presented as the first item on the agenda. Based on this amendment, Note 1 of Article 14 was changed as follows:

Note 1. In places where, as a result of unexpected events and political security problems, the holding of elections is not feasible, upon the suggestion of the Ministry of the Interior and the ratification of the central supervisory committee, elections will be halted.

In the same connection, Article 16 was amended as follows:

Article 16. The elected trustees cited in Article 15 shall hold a meeting upon an invitation by the governor or head of the district within two days after the elections and then two-thirds of those invited shall elect, by secret ballot and relative majority vote, six persons from among themselves as the main trustees and six persons as alternate trustees of the executive committee.

[Passage omitted on legislation to improve or establish university dormitories and facilitate the university education of ex-POWs.]

Also, the details of the 1369 [21 March 1990-20 March 1991] national budget amendment bill were ratified in yesterday's session of the Majles.

Based on a single article of this bill, the amount of 435,630,000,000 rials shall be added to the revenues and funds ratified in the 1369 [1990-91] national budget law, and the government shall be allowed to implement the above law by observing the other related items and amended and attached notes and charts.

This report indicates that the report on the first round of discussions of the committee on defensive affairs in regards to the general points of the bill on the Guards Corps employment regulations was also put on the agenda of the Majles session yesterday, which after discussions and examination were ratified by the representatives.

In yesterday's session, a proposal entitled the proposal for creating facilities for married students, with the signatures of 33 representatives, was announced as having been received.

Communique of the Representatives of the Majles on the Occasion of Mobilization Week

[Passage omitted on praise for Khomeyni as a Basij member.]

This year we honor mobilization week under such circumstances that, more than at any other time, the organization and the overall expansion of the mobilization and the establishment of the 20-million-strong army seems necessary. Today, global heathenism, headed by the Great Satan, the United States, and the cooperation of the treacherous Arab leaders, especially the corrupt Saudi family, with the vast and unprecedented military expedition on the sacred land of divine inspiration and the house of the Muslims, which has practically been occupied, threaten all Islamic countries and Muslims.

Today, while the safe divine sanctuary for the children of Abraham, Ismail and Mohammad has become unsafe and has turned into a killing place and a place of security and comfort for the filthy heirs of Abu Lahab and the American pirates, today, when the oppressed Palestinians are massacred most violently and replaced by the immigrant Zionist Jews, today, when the followers of pure Mohammadan Islam are throughout the world under the pressure and torture of the enemies of humanity, today, when the oppressed and the barefoot on earth are trampled without reason by the possessors of gold, power, and trickery, the only solution is what our enlightened Imam emphasized and on which the grand leader also insists, in other words, the establishment of the mobilization of the oppressed throughout the world and expanding the nuclei of armed resistance against the aggressors and bullies.

[Passage omitted in praise of Khomeyni as a Basij member.]

The Message of Imam Khomeyni on the Occasion of Mobilization Week (1367 [1988])

In the name of God the compassionate and the merciful

[Passage omitted on praise for the Basij members.]

Again I say to the whole revered Iranian nation and the officials, both in war and peace, the greatest simplemindedness is to imagine that the world-devourers, especially the United States and the Soviet Union, have relinquished us and our beloved Islam. Not even for a moment must we neglect the enmity of the enemies. Enmity with pure Mohammadan Islam is apparent in the essence and substance of the United States and the Soviet Union. We must arm ourselves with the steel weapons of patience and faith to break the waves of the storms and the conspiracies and prevent the flood of pests. All the people in a nation following the line of pure Mohammadan Islam and opposing oppression, worship of money, archaism, and pretensions of being devout, must belong to the mobilization and know the necessary military and defensive techniques, because in times of danger, it is that nation the majority of whose people have the necessary battle readiness which shall be victorious and immortal. In short, if the pleasant sound of mobilization thought resonates over a country, the greedy eyes of the enemies and world-devourers shall be removed from it. Otherwise, one must always be on the alert for an incident.

Mobilization must continue powerfully and self-assuredly as before, and today one of the most essential organizations is the mobilization of university and seminary students. The seminary students and university students must defend the revolution and Islam in their centers, and my mobilized children in these two centers must be the guardians of the unfaltering principle of "neither East nor West." Today, the universities and the theological centers need unity more than anywhere else. The children of the revolution must by no means allow the agents of the United States and the USSR to penetrate those two sensitive centers. Only through mobilization can this important matter be accomplished. The ideological problems of mobilization are the responsibility of these two scholarly bases. The theological center and the university must, within the authentic frameworks, make pure Mohammadan Islam available to all the members of the mobilization. The mobilization forces of the Islamic world must contemplate the creation of a great Islamic government. This can be done, because the mobilization is not exclusive to Islamic Iran. The nuclei of resistance must be created throughout the world and stand against the East and the West. In the imposed war, you showed that through proper and good management Islam can conquer the world. You must know that your work is not finished. The Islamic revolution in the world needs your self-sacrifice, and only with your support can the officials prove to all who are

hungry for truth and sincerity that without the United States and the Soviet Union we can achieve peaceful coexistence and freedom. Your presence on the scene severs the roots of the counterrevolution in all their dimensions. I kiss the hands of all you pioneers of freedom, one by one. Know that if the officials of the Islamic regime neglect you, they shall burn in the fires of Hell. Once again I emphasize that to neglect the creation of the 20-million-strong army will result in falling into the trap of the two superpowers. I thank all the mobilization forces, particularly their beloved commanders, and I shall not neglect praying for these loyal children of Islam. [Passage omitted in praise of Basij members.]

***RESALAT Reports 25 Nov 90 Majles Session**

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26 Nov 90 PP 5, 11

[Text]Legal and Majles Section - The open session of the Majles was held yesterday morning chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi.

In this session, after remarks by representatives of Kohkiluyeh Va Boyer Ahmad and Marvdasht as pre-agenda speakers, the speaker of the Majles made some remarks in regards to the Week of Basij. [This was followed by] the continuation of deliberations on the supplementary 1369 [21 Mar 90 - 20 Mar 91] budget bill.

Following is the text of remarks by the preagenda speakers and, also, legislations passed by the Majles:

Nurollah Mahmoudian, the representative of the people of Boyer Ahmad: The exalted leader has been the caravan-leader of the revolution with fortitude and bravery and continues to adorn the noble pages of Islam and Shiism with his wisdom

The first preagenda speaker in yesterday's open session of the Majles was Mr Mahmoudian, the representative of the people of Kohkiluyeh Va Boyer Ahmad.

In his remarks, in regards to unity and solidarity he said: Under these circumstances, when the fortitude of the faith and steadfastness of the divine resolution of the martyr-nurturing nation of Iran has been manifested in the imam-like wisdom of the exalted leader of the revolution and foresight of the esteemed president in some of the recent victories which has glared the eyes of the world, I find it necessary to invite the Islamic nation of Iran and all the world Muslims to unite and better prepare to confront the desperate conspiracies of the world of blasphemy led by America and their illegal presence in the Islamic land and [proximity of] the Noble Shrines. It is obvious that successes of the Islamic revolution in confronting the world arrogance is owed to the solidarity of the nation and the prophet-like leadership of our late imam in developing and blossoming their talents. Talents that during the time of Satan [Shah] were either led to oblivion and wasted or suppressed, blossomed and were channeled by the Christ-like person and capable hand of the founder of the Islamic revolution to

the astonishment of the present-age and shall continue to shape the future. This is the path on which the exalted leader has been the caravan-leader of the revolution, with fortitude and bravery, and [he] continues to adorn the noble pages of Islam and Shiism with his wisdom.

In continuation of his speech, he attempted to analyze the situation in the province of Kohkiluyeh Va Boyer Ahmad and said:

In some offices of the province of Kohkiluyeh Va Boyer Ahmad, especially and most important in the governorate, the trend of moves and decisions of the governor-general does not seem to be in the framework of the above depicted arena. The deprivation of the province in various dimensions is well known to all. [It is] such a deprivation that, when it was listed among the deprived regions of the country by the then prime minister (His Excellency Engineer Musavi), it caused jubilation among the inhabitants and messages of thanks and appreciation were dispatched by the people of the province to him. [Prior to this], the people's feeling was that their deprivation has reached a point that even the name of the region has been crossed out of the list of the deprived [regions]. However, this dry desert, where the deprived and the downtrodden live, is amazingly ripe for the rise of heroes. In the area of talents and genius, despite being deprived of all educational and cultural facilities, they shined so brightly in university entrance examinations that even broke the records of large cities. In the area of faith and bravery, based on the published statistics of the battle of right against wrong [Iran-Iraq war] and participation in [military] campaigns, the heroic men of this province were the most heroic and the percentage of martyrs, MIAs and POWs of the province—relative to the number of population—is the highest in the country. Now the question that comes to mind is: What is the mission of the officials of the province in regards to all these manifestations of genius, faith, sacrifice and sincerity? In other systems all management, plans and designs are utilized merely to satisfy non-spiritual desires and wishes of people. However, in the Islamic regime, in addition to these, the mission of an official is to [help] people grow and blossom in talents and advance to perfection.

Mr. Mahmoudian pointed out: Are the executive officials of this deprived province not obligated to implement in the province the divine policies which were depicted by His Eminence the imam and which cover all Muslims? This is a province, a province that at the time of Satan was suppressed under the injustice of the shah, chieftains and gendarmes and hopes to find its Islamic and human position in the Islamic Republic. If statistics are collected, it will be evident that throughout the tenure of governor-general, 100 percent of all the forces [officials] that have been brought in have been—and are—ineffective and have had weak qualities from the point of view of level of knowledge, education, management and capability. Also, some of them did not pass the test of safeguarding the Muslim treasury and the people's rights. [Indeed] some of the very few indigenous people

who were lucky to be given the task of some minor affairs have been in many ways more successful than those individuals. Presently, the governor-general has a long line of his townsmen and associates posted to run the affairs despite their poor qualifications and low level of education. In comparison to such forces, while there are much more worthy, capable and educated individuals in the province, the governor-general practically considers them untalented, irresponsible and unfit. Under such conditions should the children of this region not have the right to question how and when the basis for development of their talents may be prepared? Is the slogan of eradicating deprivation in a region not meaningless in the absence of empowering the individuals and employing the educated forces of that region in order to manage their affairs? Is it eradication of deprivation in the province when our combatants and self-sacrificing Basijis are unemployed while some friends and associates of the governor-general are immediately employed in various offices in the province? Our people may be deprived but they are informed. They say that, as colonialists refrain from empowering deprived nations and avoid providing them with education and management [skills] because they consider these to be the special right of their own advisors and friends, now [the governor-general] also refrains from employing the educated forces of the province and we must await the negative and disappointing effect of his unsuitable behavior toward the people—although his behavior in Azarbaijan and Bushehr is adequately known to all and testifies to his behavior.

The speaker recounted some of the activities of the governor-general and said:

The governor-general arrives for work very late and leaves very early. This is precedent-setting and most executive officials follow suit. This negative trend is regretfully being copied by other deputies and managers, an example of his bad understanding and weak management style is evident in his statements made during the meeting of the Administrative Council of the Province such as: "My neck is thicker than the pillars of Imam Khomeyni's mosque and we are ready for war and martyrdom." Such statements by the governor-general and official in charge of security in the province, and most importantly, during the meeting of the Administrative Council which was attended by all the officials of the province is indeed regrettable. Were they gathered in order to face the issue of the Experts Assembly elections or to observe the thickness and size of Mr. governor's neck? The officials of the province were wondering against whom is he prepared for war and martyrdom? Is it against the martyr-nurturing people of the province or the followers of Saddam [Husayn]? Of course, during the war with followers of Saddam we did not observe such bravery and heroism from him. Weakness of management and the inability of the governor-general to recognize the [nature of the] environment where he practices leadership is apparent in the quality and style of his appointments and dismissals. The governor of Boyer Ahmad, the lieutenant governor for

district of Margoun, the public relations officer, the [official in charge of] evaluation and planning office of the province are all not only his townsmen and associates, but are also of low level of knowledge and education and have been unsuccessful in their previous positions. This is in addition to the fact that there is long line of his townsmen and associates waiting to fill the posts of other governorates, directorate-generals in the governorate-general of the province and some deputy posts. Considering the above issues, the unsuitable behavior of the governor-general will certainly have detrimental and devastating effects on citizens of the province for which he shall be personally responsible. In three instances I have asked the esteemed minister of interior to investigate the situation and the prevailing problems of executive officials and, especially, the existing problems in the political atmosphere of the province. So far no response has been made [by the minister of interior] and although I even [sent a] written [notice], no response has been received.

He added: The attitude of some officials in the governorate-general is such that if brothers and sisters have even read the newsletters, they [must] have noted the attitude of the governor-general toward the disabled veterans, the POWs and families of martyrs and, even, the freed POWs who have just returned and have also noted that it is utterly incredible.

Mr Mahmoudian then thanked and appreciated the efforts of the non-indigenous director-generals who have previously served well in the province.

In conclusion of his remarks, he again asked the minister and officials of the Interior Ministry to expeditiously investigate the situation in the province.

Ahmad Kabiri, the representative of the people of Marvdasht: Readiness to confront the consequences of America's aggressive presence in the region is a crucial matter the neglect of which shall cause many damages.

The second preagenda speaker in yesterday's open session of the Majles was Mr Kabiri from the constituency of Marvdasht. In his remarks, while offering his congratulations on the occasion of the sacred Week of Basij, he said: No matter if the crisis in Persian Gulf ends through war or political dialogue, the widespread presence of the Great Satan, the criminal America, in the sensitive region of the Persian Gulf and in the Land of Inspiration [Hejaz] will be long-lasting and dangers of this presence will threaten us more than anyone else. For this reason we cannot remain quiet observers and leave ourselves to fate and destiny. Readiness to confront the consequences of America's aggressive presence in the region is a crucial matter the neglect of which shall cause many damages.

In another part of his remarks the speaker added: The group that seemingly has just discovered the importance of the principle of Velayat-e Faqih in the regime of Islamic Republic is so excited about this discovery that is not even willing to accept anyone else in this arena and by using the weapon of accusation and slander compares

the opposite faction to the misfits of the time of Ali (God's peace upon him) and thus endeavors to implement the plan which it has designed for elimination of this faction.

I am certain that those who loyally and sincerely followed His Eminence the imam (may his soul be placed in heaven) will also today remain steadfast to the last stand in their covenant with the exalted leader. However, I have a question from those who have brought up this issue and [continue to] aggravate the situation and that is: History shows that some of the followers of the Exalted Prophet (God bless him) did not follow Ali (upon him be peace). However, do you know anyone among those who hurt the Prophet (God bless him) who sincerely made their covenant with Ali (upon him be peace)?

Concerning the economic progress of the country, the representative of the people of Marvdasht said: The economic progress of the country and its logical expansion are among important goals of the regime of Islamic Republic of Iran. In the past, due to the war and economic blockade, endeavors in this area have been less than successful. However, presently and after the conclusion of the war and composition of the 5-Year Plan, there is much hope that, God willing, barriers shall be removed and a fundamental plan for economic expansion of the country can be implemented. Recently, however, it seems that the most important element blocking the path of economic expansion has been identified and that is [some] superstitious and pretentious individuals who pretend to be revolutionaries. While they live in comfort, they invite others to live abjectly. These people who are incapable of understanding the conditions of the time, hold back people's talents from growing and prevent their progress.

In continuation he added: What are the realities about our society and our economic conditions? Are we in an era similar to that of the Prophet (God bless him) or one that resembles the era of Imam Sadeq (Upon him be peace) [the 6th successor of prophet Mohammad in Twelver Shi'ism]? The response of Imam Sadeq (upon him be peace) to Sofian Suri in this regard was that, the Prophet (God bless him) lived at the time of hardship and despair and utilized the existing blessings in proportion to the [prevailing] hardship and despair. Afterward the world headed toward abundance and those most fitting to take advantage of this abundance are the righteous. While we have not yet been able to solve the problem of transportation and people spend hours of their lives waiting in lines for taxis and buses, how can such discussions resolve any of the economic problems of our country?

Or, when the problem of housing has reached the point that many young boys and girls cannot marry, what picture of the Prophet (God bless him) is being depicted in the minds of young people by the claim that since the Prophet (God bless him) had nine wives, therefore he had nine houses or, at least, nine rooms? A Prophet who, as interpreted by His Eminence the Imam, was himself a

hut-dweller. The imam (may his soul be placed in heaven) said: "The Prophet (God bless him), who is above all, himself was a hut-dweller. It should not be even perceived that he had a single room like an average one that we have today. He had some quarters, very simple quarters from where the light of this highly distinguished person has shined upon the world and heavens."

In continuation, he added: In any case, the economic expansion is possible only through work, endeavor, higher production, control of windfall profits of the service sector through serious confrontation with brokers, hoarders, price-gougers, the leach-like capitalists, and collection of taxes from plunderers of people's rights. It cannot be achieved through [excessive] consumption or spread of false rumors about those who offer sympathetic criticism.

The speaker then referred to the 13 Aban [4 Nov] Shiraz student incident and said: Despite the political and undeniable role of Muslim students and universities in general in all phases of the revolution and the endorsement of this role by the imam (may his soul be in heaven) and the exalted leader of the revolution, regretfully, some try to smear this role and even eliminate the students from the political scene of the country. The 13 Aban incident in Shiraz is an example of this movement and, despite passage of three weeks, no fundamental and meaningful approach has been made toward it and the esteemed minister of interior has not yet offered a convincing response. Based on statements of law enforcement-security officials of the province, the statements made during the Friday Prayer of 11 Aban [2 Nov] in Shiraz and violation of the rules concerning the speaker and the conduct of the meeting by the organization charged with this responsibility and the Islamic Propaganda Organization, and the weak and illogical attitude of the governorate-general in this regard were the main elements leading to this incident. On Friday 11 Aban, the Islamic Association of Shiraz University Students was announced to be guilty for inviting several representatives of the Majles—including Mr. Montakhabnia, the representative of the people of Shiraz, and the representative of the exalted leader in the Police [force]—and was so addressed from the television which should be the instrument for propagation of piety and righteousness: "I have a complaint about Shiraz University and its Islamic Association. You [the Association] go and bring speakers here from there [Tehran] to say what? Was there not any target easier than Shiraz for you? Were there not less aspired people than the people of Shiraz who could slap you on the mouth? On Sunday they will conduct a march. You can also come and talk if you have something to say. Do not go behind the closed doors in the room and say what you want to say. Were those who came around you there the dedicated who are watchful that their eyes do not meet a girl's eyes and their hands do not hold a girl's hand? Were they the virtuous Hezbollahis watchful not to commit sins with their eyes, their hands or their tongues? Or those who wish for destruction of the clergy?"

In continuation he added: Thus a great number of students, girls and boys, have so been accused and when, on 13 Aban, they simply asked to read their statement, not only permission was not granted, but also the speaker from behind the podium issued the decree of their hypocrisy and ordered their arrests. All know the rest of the story.

Mr. Kabiri, in continuation, said: Indeed, where are we headed? Students and academicians, who themselves are creators of the honorable epic of 13 Aban, the epic that the exalted imam of the nation called a revolution even greater than the first revolution, are not permitted to actively participate in the anniversary of that immortal epic and read their statement. They are also subjected to being called such names as new hypocrites and are dispelled from the ceremonies after being beaten and arrested by the police. May God save the day that the revolution and our regime thus responds to its students. In any event, I request the esteemed minister of interior, as the official charged with internal security of the country, to pursue the matter more seriously, present a complete report of this to the people and the Majles and take appropriate action to exonerate the Islamic Association and students of Shiraz University and to confront the main culprits of the incident.

In conclusion, he referred to the trip of Ayatollah Yazdi to Fars Province and expressed hope that the difficulties and judicial problems of the province would be investigated by him.

Statements Of The Speaker Of Majles

After the preagenda speeches, Hozjat ol-Eslam Val Moslemine Karrubi, the speaker of Majles, offered his congratulations on the blessed occasion of the birthday of Her Holiness Zeynab to all Muslims and especially women and expressed appreciation for the efforts of nurses, especially during the holy defense.

He declared the readiness of Majles for ratification of plans and bills that would concern nurses.

On the occasion of the Basij Week and in reference to the formation of the 20 million-man army per the order of His Eminence the Imam (may his soul be placed in God's heaven), the speaker of Majles said: The basij of the downtrodden was formed in the year 59 (21 Mar 80-20 Mar 81) with the foresight and wisdom of His Eminence the Imam (may his soul be placed in God's Heaven). Under those circumstances, Majles approved that its management shall be given to the Islamic Revolution Guards Corp.

He added: At a time when His Eminence the Imam (may his soul be placed in God's Heaven) had ordered the formation of Basij, the prevailing view in the society was such that, regretfully, the approvals were obtained in the then Revolution Council to return the submarine and F-14 airplanes. However, various events and especially

the imposed war revealed the positive effects of the far-sightedness of His Eminence the Imam and the role of the Basij.

While emphasizing the Iranian nation will never forget sacrifices and life-givings of Basijis, Mr. Karrubi stated: Past events must be lessons and paradigms for us and we should make appropriate compensation to the Basijis because we shall always need the Basij forces.

He emphasized maintaining the readiness of Basij forces and said: The bases of Basij resistance must be strengthened and Basij forces must be present in all aspects of the society.

Pointing out to the "Neither East Nor West" policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the speaker of Majles said: The Islamic revolution follows the policy of "Neither East Nor West". Certainly, there will be animosities with this revolution and in order to protect this revolution from dangers of its enemies, Basiji forces must be required because the battle between truth and falsehood and between Islam and blasphemy shall always endure.

He added: As His Eminence the imam (may his soul rest in God's Heaven) has stated, Basij must be transformed into resistance cells all across the world, and Iran, which is the base and the motherland of Islam, shall be the center of these cells.

In reference to the response of His Eminence Ayatollah Jannaty to Mr. Moazzenzadeh, representative of Kerman, who in his speech of last Wednesday had quoted Mr. Jaunty as saying that, "it [Khomeyni's decree] is a torn piece of paper [dug up] from under tons of dust", Mr. Karrubi said: In his letter, Mr. Jannaty has written that Mr. Moazzenzadeh, during his speech, had said, "a torn page from under the dust". Although I was not named but it was [aimed at] me when I said, "the private letter under tons of dust".

Mr. Karrubi said: A page is a page—be it a letter or a piece of paper—except that [the word] torn has been added. I apologize on behalf of Mr. Moazzenzadeh and correct [the mistake]. However, I shall state to Ayatollah Jannaty that, how sensitive a statement this has been.

During this session Mr. Karrubi pointed out that, following the remarks of Mr. Moazzenzadeh, representative of Kerman, Ayatollah Jannaty in a letter asked that corrective steps concerning the allegations attributed be taken and stated that, otherwise he will take appropriate measures from another direction. The first point is that, Mr. Moazzenzadeh in his preagenda speech said: In one of the Friday Prayers the imam's letter has been likened to a torn piece of paper dug up from under tons of dirt. And, Ayatollah Jannaty has assumed that the [above] statement was in reference to his speech in the Friday Prayer of Qom and [Jannaty] has written that, I said "in the private letter that has been dug up from under tons of dust" and did not use the expression "torn piece of paper".

In continuation, Mr. Karrubi added: On behalf of Mr. Moazzenzadeh I correct this sentence and apologize. However, a piece of paper is a piece of paper, be it a letter or a sheet of paper. Except that [the word] torn has been added. I also say to Ayatollah Jannati that the expression was sensitive enough to [warrant] your writing a letter [demanding] correction [apology] and [threatening] that if correction is not made other actions will be taken. Now, about the interpretation of "tons of dust" as it is related to the imam's letter. He [Jannati] has not said if it is correct or not [has been said or not]. He has only explained that the reference was to the "private letter". this is very odd.

In conclusion Mr. Karrubi added: I assert that, if the same was said by one of "those people who wear ties or hats" [Western looking/educated], the clergy would say that they [the Western looking] are not qualified to do anything while he [Jannati], regrettably, has not taken any action to correct his own statement.

Legislation

The report of the parliamentary correspondent of RESALAT from yesterday's open session of Majles indicates that a number of suggestions were offered by deputies concerning the bill to amend the 1369 [21 Mar 90-20 Mar 91] National Budget Law and several of the suggestions were approved.

Based on one of the suggestions, the sum of RLS 5 billion was added to the budget allocation for the [National] Handicraft Organization. Also, the sum of RLS 10 billion from deduction in the budget allocation of Voice and Vision [radio and television stations] was allocated to increase the second half [of the year] salaries and wages of the contract and conventional employees of the executive organizations who are subject to the National Employment Law. The amount and method of payment of salary increases will be approved by the Cabinet.

All executive organizations which take advantage of the operational and capital investment budget for research have been made obligated to appropriate at least 5 percent of their budgets through the University Crusade.

The next item on the agenda of the Majles was the bill for amendment of Article 22 of the Press Law which was returned by the Council of Guardians. The corrections deemed necessary by this council were approved by deputies.

Also, during yesterday's session a bill concerning an increase in the share of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the International Monetary Fund [IMF] was presented as a first-category priority matter. After remarks by Dr. Adeli, the governor-general of the Bank-e Markazi, proponents and opponents the first-category priority provision of the bill was put to vote and was approved. The receipt of the question by Mr. Arbabi-Fard, the representative of Ramian and Azad Shahr, from the minister

of commerce concerning the shutting down of Ramian's trade office and declaring it illegal was announced by the Executive Council.

Also, during yesterday's open session of Majles the receipt of the question by a number of deputies from the petroleum minister concerning the failure to secure supply of fuel to East Azarbaijan Province was announced.

Reduction Of Voice And Vision Budget Allocation

During yesterday's open session of Majles a number of deputies suggested that RLS 10 billion be deducted from the budget allocations of the Management Office of the Voice and Vision Network for the year 1369 [1990-91] and [the same] be added to the item for "Salary Increase for Government Employees". Due to the importance of the subject matter we invite your attention to the excerpts of the discussions concerning this suggestion:

Nourouzi (explanation of the suggestion)

In explaining the suggestion, Mr. Nourouzi stated: In view of the nine months' activities of Voice and Vision, the growing trend of the budget of Voice and Vision is such that our suggested reduction of RLS 10 billion will bear no adverse effect on it. If we observe the trend of this organization's budget, in the year 67 [21 Mar 88-20 Mar 89] a budget of RLS 23.4 billion was allocated from which RLS 19.6 billion was for operations and RLS 3.8 billion was for capital investment. The total of the 68 [21 Mar 89-20 Mar 90] budget was RLS 24.6 billion. However, the sum of RLS 41.1 billion was approved for the year 69 which is approximately twice [the previous year's amount]. This doubling means that the budget cannot be absorbed.

He added: In the year 69 we have RLS 32.1 billion for the operational budget [of the organization] and RLS 9 billion for capital investment. The nine months' allocation amounts to RLS 23.1 billion while only RLS 20.9 billion has been utilized. Considering this performance, we believe that such a budget cannot be absorbed in the remaining three months of the year and, in order to prevent its return, this [surplus] budget has been added to item 503137 in order to help make up the present shortage of funds for that item. This also results in the total absorption of the Voice and Vision budget. If some believe that they can use special laws and push for higher increases, this is contrary to method of adjustment in the system of payments and we must not permit the existence of rampant increases.

The reason is that, this sum is about three to four times the capital investment budget that will be used in conjunction with the operational budget. In the programs of the Voice and Vision, approximately RLS 50 million has been allocated and spent for Network 1 and approximately RLS 300 million has been spent for Network 2. In our view the operational budget is not balanced and, thus, we ask that the budget be adjusted by RLS 10 billion.

Es'haq Jahangiri (opponent)

In opposition to this suggestion, Mr. Jahangiri stated: The suggestion by the brothers concerning the reduction of budget allocation of the Voice and Vision is two-dimensional. One is the discussion about the budget allocation and the needs of the Voice and Vision and the other one is the discussion of its performance during this period.

He added: As a [Majles] deputy, I object to the behavior of the Voice and Vision and believe that tools and facilities which are at the disposal of some should not be abused. In this regard, the Voice and Vision has been at fault—especially, since it used a phrase used by the esteemed speaker of the Majles. We believe that the Majles must certainly confront the Voice and Vision in connection with this matter and it [V&V] must account for its action in a gathering of deputies. Certainly, if the credibility and respect of high level officials of the country (chiefs of the three branches of government), especially the speaker of the Majles, is undermined, then it is natural if in return the value [respect] for the officials of the Voice and Vision and others is disregarded. Also, we believe that, while we have objections towards Voice and Vision, the Majles should not act in such a way and engage in reprisal just because we have the power and authority to reduce the budget of the Voice and Vision. Such an act is the same as what they perpetrated which we have objected.

He added: Mr. Nourouzi stated that, if we cut RLS 10 billion, it causes no problems for them [V&V]. This act leads to the blocking of all operational and capital projects of the Voice and Vision. One of our most basic problems in border towns is that people watch foreign programs instead of our programs. This is a serious problem for us. Cutting RLS 10 billion would block all the activities of Voice and Vision and, therefore, we strongly oppose this suggestion.

Musavi-Lari (proponent)

Mr. Musavi-Lari, in agreement with this suggestion, stated: Regretfully, Mr. Jahangiri turned the discussion into a political one while, perhaps, that is only the secondary aspect of the discussion.

The prelude of his statement [Mr. Jahangiri's] in condemnation of Voice and Vision and their inappropriate behavior, is a separate discussion and the Majles must deal with the Voice and Vision and I have no qualms about this issue. Our issue is that, the budget of Voice and Vision is RLS 41 billion and during the [first] nine months of this year about RLS 23.1 billion had been allocated to the Voice and Vision and, of which, only RLS 20.9 billion has been spent and about RLS 20 billion is still left for the last three months of the year. The Majles allocated a budget for increasing the salaries of employees [civil servants] which does not include contract and conventional employees. We suggest that the remaining RLS 20 billion, which will not be utilized or it will be wasted, shall be added to the item for the salaries of employees.

He then pointed out: The Voice and Vision is spending a part of its capital budget on unnecessary buildings infamous halls. [Voice and Vision] does not want to solve any of the problems and, in connection with these unnecessary buildings and mosque and ... which they are building, not even once did they come forward with an explanation. How could this be justified considering the poor living standard of civil servants? The Voice and Vision has not presented [any of] its accounting since 1353 [21 Mar 74].

In conclusion, Mr. Musavi-Lari said: In addition to political problems (which are there to be attended to), Voice and Vision has not been able to absorb the budget allocations.

Spokesman of the budget and planning committee

In reference to the statements of Mr. Jahangiri, the spokesman of the budget and planning committee said: One of the important aspects concerning this matter is the performance of Voice and Vision. I do not think anyone denies the need for expansion and strengthening of Voice and Vision. Regretfully, however, at the present time some parts of the country are not under the cover of Voice and Vision. The quantitative expansion of the programs of the Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran is among the subjects being considered and the world coverage of the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran is being considered by all who are concerned about the revolution. However, the performance of this organization, in some instances, is the subject of criticism—especially since there have been clashes in connection with the Majles that should have been avoided.

He added: Under the present circumstances the proposed action will certainly drag the Voice and Vision into deadlock. What is left for the Voice and Vision from its year 69 allocation is less than RLS 10 billion. This proposal means, in effect, the shut down of Voice and Vision because during the final quarter [financial] obligations of all organizations are increased and their payments escalate.

He added: If you had done this in the beginning of the year, perhaps the management of Voice and Vision could absorb this reduction and make up for the loss [of funds]. However, under the present circumstances when the figure is less than 10, how can we receive RLS 10 billion? Secondly, what should it [V&V] do after this [deduction]? [Is it expected that it] does pay the salary of its employees and does not cover its current expenses?

He added: Based on the aforementioned reasons, we oppose this suggestion and hope that the problems of Voice and Vision are resolved so that and we can see its expansion.

Government Spokesman

In this connection, the representative of the government said: This is perhaps the first time that you wish to cut the budget of an organization at this time of the year. If the budget of Voice and Vision has escalated to RLS 40

billion from RLS 24.6 billion, it has been due to the approval of this Majles. This is a figure which has been determined by esteemed deputies based on the 5-Year Plan and the [current] requirements of that organization.

Investigation of the budget at this time of the year in order to see how much has been spent and whether it can absorb the remainder is, in effect, crippling that organization.

He added: By reducing this amount from the budget of Voice and Vision, activities of that organization will be disrupted and I believe that esteemed deputies do not favor such a disruption.

He added: Increasing the budget of Voice and Vision has been mostly due to the debt this organization owed to the Communication Company. As you are informed, in order to prevent the escalation of the debt level, in the past the debts of public organizations to public companies were held in suspension. For this reason the debt owed by Voice and Vision to the Communication Company was not paid (due to that organization's inadequate budget allocation) and it was decided to increase the [budget] of Voice and Vision in order to pay back such debts.

Voice And Vision Explains The Reduction In Its Budget Allocation

Following the reduction in the budget allocation of Voice and Vision, the following explanations were issued by that organization:

During yesterday's open session of Majles the sum of RLS 10 billion was deducted from the 1369 budget of Voice and Vision and, thus, its current budget was reduced to the sum of RLS 31 billion.

In order to understand the consequences of this reduction and its negative impact on the activities of the organization, especially in the framework of program quality, it is necessary that we have a look at the budget and activities of this organization in the past.

In the year 1357 [beginning 21 Mar 78], while being less than half of today's expansion, Voice and Vision Organization was composed of 8400 employees, 87 radio transmitters and 11 powerful television stations with a budget of RLS 39.4 billion. This was at a time when over 80 percent of its programs were foreign produced.

Since 1364 [starting 21 Mar 85], due to war conditions in the country, the budget of Voice and Vision was justifiably reduced to RLS 26 billion. This reduction, however, resulted in the appearance of certain obligations for the Voice and Vision Organization.

After the elimination of extraordinary conditions of those years, in consideration of the importance of the Voice and Vision and its sensitive role in the society, its budget eventually took an upturn trend.

This year, Voice and Vision organization—with over 12000 personnel, 200 radio transmitters, 27 powerful television stations, a widespread FM network, 24 radio/

television centers in provinces, 14 external programs and the noticeable expansion it has had—had suggested a budget of RLS 60 billion for the year 69. It is so designed to, firstly, fulfill some of its obligations of previous years and, secondly, act to improve the quality and increase the quantity of the programs which are favored by everyone. However, due to limitations faced by the government, RLS 41 billion was approved as the budget for the year 69. Even this level of increase has resulted in the qualitative improvement of programs as has been witnessed by everyone.

The approved budget for the organization could not suffice its expenses. Also this year, despite the approval of RLS 41 billion, the organization had faced a budget deficit. Even the organization's 15 security projects which had begun in the year 67 [starting 21 Mar 88] and required a budget of RLS 7.5 billion had to be suspended due to the budget deficit. The organization has had numerous correspondence in connection with this budget deficit with the office of president, budget and planning organization, and budget and planning committee of Majles. Following the request of Voice and Vision for an increase in its budget to be provided in this year's budget amendment [bill], the budget and planning committee of Majles appointed a group consisting of four esteemed deputies to study this organization's budget [requirements]. After the study and while confirming the [existing] deficit in the organization's budget, in order to alleviate the budget shortcomings of the organization, the selected delegation suggested that the budget amendment should included the sum of RLS 3.75 billion to be added to the organization's budget. Unfortunately, the budget and planning committee rejected this suggestion merely for the reason that the suggested figure will raise the ceiling of the organization's 69 budget. Therefore, not only there has been no addition to the budget, but regretfully—as a result of yesterday's proposal by a number of deputies—the sum of RLS 10 billion was cut from the approved RLS 41 billion budget of the organization. This means that a quarter of the organization's budget has been reduced while, at the same time, all of the operational budget of the organization has been used and the capital budget has been obligated until the end of the year 69.

The looming question is, what will be the impact of this move on the Voice and Vision of the Islamic republic of Iran?

How can Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran—which has always acted as the strong arm of the Islamic revolution, the herald of the great movement of the combatant Iranian nation and whose sensitive and fundamental role in the process of the Islamic revolution is known to friend and foe—continue on this great path while facing such reductions in its budget?

We need to know who benefits from the weakening of Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic?!

Today's world is the world of communications. Mass media, especially radios and televisions of arrogant powers, play a sensitive and fundamental role in advancing [their] policies and making their cultures dominant. Today, when Voice and Vision must combat the propaganda of the arrogance and continue with its cultural battle while presenting favorite programs of the people which are also products of the noble Islamic culture of the Iranian people, is it correct that instead of increasing its budget, steps be taken to reduce it by one-fourth?!

The performance of the past several months showed that, if adequate attention is paid especially to the budget and facilities of the Voice and Vision, the capacity and strength for taking fundamental steps and leaps toward qualitative and quantitative improvement in programs do exist. However, reducing the budget of this organization will certainly have negative repercussions in its programs and Voice and Vision will not be able to respond to the needs and requirements of the society. Certainly, it will be the enemies and advocates of arrogance who will benefit from the vacuum which shall result from the decline in the activities and quality of programs of Voice and Vision.

***RESALAT Reports 20 Nov Majles Session**

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21 Nov 90 p 5

[Text] Legal and Parliamentary Division: The open session of the Majles was held yesterday morning with Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi presiding.

In this session, following the statements of the representatives of Qorveh and Khaf, the Majles went into session, and the examination of the remaining notes to the budget amendment bill continued.

Below you shall read the speeches of the pre-agenda speakers and the ratifications of the Majles. Hoseyn Najafi, the Representative of Khaf and Rashtkhar: We can advance in all areas, including industry and agriculture, when we have strong cultural ability.

The second pre-agenda speaker of the Majles yesterday was Mr. Najafi-Sari, from the Khaf and Rashtkhar electoral district, who said:

In the past few days, Mr. Bush, the U.S. president, has frightened the people of the world with the threat of a military engagement and possible third world war. He said: If Saddam is not condemned for his attack and aggression against Kuwait and Iraq is not stopped, there is a possibility of a third world war. In this way, he still wants to preserve his own sinister shadow and that of his supporters over the oppressed nations without realizing that for the Muslim and oppressed nations and liberation movements, every day is a third world war. In the 10 years of the imposed war, did they not drop over the

heads of the oppressed of the nation of Iran several times the number of bombs dropped in World War I and World War II?

Is there not a third world war every day in Lebanon, India, Africa, and South America? Mr. Bush, all niceties aside, wake up. In the same way that the Eastern camp fell apart, soon the international Western and Zionist camp, as our imam said (about communism), given your bullying and excessive pressure of the oppressed in the world, will be seen in the museums of history. In continuation, he added: It is time for the Muslim and oppressed nations of the world to attack with all their might the kings on earth, such as you who even invade the most sacred religious sites and now have the Ka'bah of Muslims under your control. There is no longer room for the Muslims and the oppressed masses to forgive you.

Concerning the recent events in India, addressing the Indian nation, the speaker said: A nation that for so long tasted the bitter and sinister effects of British colonialism, was born of pain and suffering, and has had such free-spirited leaders as Jawaharlal Nehru and Gandhi is unlikely today to allow a number of people to attack Muslims and destroy mosques. Hence, it is intolerable for us and all Muslims in the world, and if it is repeated again, the Muslim nations will carry out their religious duty and will disturb the pleasant dreams of those who want to be disrespectful to Muslims or violate their religious places.

In another part of his speech, the speaker thanked the people for participating in the 4 November ceremonies, praised the students following the line of the Imam for the siege of the Den of Spies, and prayed for the recovery of the honorable speaker of the Majles.

The representative of the people of Khaf and Rashtkhar referred to inflation and continued: Considering the self-sacrifices of the serving government of Brother Musavi in the war decade and the activities of Brother Hashemi, we still have not been able to end this problem. One of the problems may be the existence of leech-like, godless capitalists who will not consent at any price to cooperate with the government, and who by hoarding and price hiking continue to plunder for windfall wealth. A revival and research in home building and construction throughout the country, especially in large cities, land prospecting, and illegitimate ownership of land, which result in a number of people becoming rich and others poorer, prove this point. Hence, it is necessary, with consideration for the existing laws, such as Article 49 of the Constitution, to deal with this issue and implement the law of "how you got it."

We can make progress in all technical and technological areas of industry, agriculture, etc., when we have strong cultural capability. Strengthening the cultural capacity requires attention to the material and spiritual problems of the educators, which we hope will be resolved with the activities of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Then, addressing the minister of education, he said: In my pre-agenda speech on 14 October 1990, considering the authority of the representative in accordance with the Constitution, I asked your honor to think and study the educational administration in Khorasan. Unfortunately, the public relations office of the central office of education in Khorasan published a response in the QODS newspaper and even issued a circular letter to schools in which the authority of the representative is ignored and, in a harsh and insulting manner and with words unrelated to education and not within the realm of their duties, has praised and admired the education officials of Khaf and Rashtkhar. For instance, it has been said that the director of education of Khaf and Rashtkhar was on the Kordeistan front. Your excellency, Mr. Minister, ask your director general: Is there anyone in this country, with the exception of a few children of well-to-do counterrevolutionary capitalists, who has not gone to the front? It has also been stated in regard to the director of education of Khaf that he is an interpreter of the Koran. How happy the people for whom he is the interpreter of the Koran must be! I have documents and evidence about him which I present to the honorable speaker of the Majles to be given to the research and investigation committee of the Majles on the operation of education. The issue of education has reached such a point that in the march on 29 October 1990, a handful of people shouted slogans of "Death to Hojjat ol-Eslam Haj Aqa Hesari," the father of two martyrs and a disabled son, who has worn the garb of the clergy for 40 years and is anticapitalist and anticommunist.

In conclusion, the speaker made several reminders concerning his constituency, issued his warm and sincere greetings, and renewed the allegiance of the Shiites and Sunnis of that region to the grand leader of the revolution, Mohammad Reza Rahimi, the Representative of the People of Qorveh.

The first pre-agenda speaker of the open session of the Majles yesterday was Mr. Rahimi from the Qorveh constituency.

He said: Today, the Islamic government of Iran is the only government in the world that is founded on velayat-e faqih [rule of the supreme jurisconsult]. Velayat-e faqih is a valuable jewel on which Islam and Islamic government are based and by which the immortal spirit of the imam of the nation was manifested once more, founded on the basis of science and justice.

He added: Velayat-e faqih means the guardianship of a scholarly and just man on which the Islamic government relies. In this regime, by accepting velayat-e faqih, the people have in fact accepted for themselves the government of knowledge and justice. The imposition of knowledge, justice, and religious jurisprudence and their acceptance by the Muslim nation has no highs and lows. Speaking of highs and lows means nothing but tormenting the sacred soul of the imam and harming the foundation of velayat-e faqih. If prophets have ranks, "some prophets are more virtuous than others." In

accepting and obeying God, the prophet, the imam, and the supreme jurisconsult, there are no differences among the people. After the revolution, all the attacks, the hostilities, the imposed war, the quarrels, and the fights were directed towards the Islamic revolution for this reason, in other words, for the sake of the Islamic government that has a religious guardian; otherwise, the people of Iran were Muslims prior to the revolution as well.

He added: In order to make up for the severing of its influence over Iran and the decline of its power in Europe, the Persian Gulf, and the Middle East, the United States has had and will continue to have plans. In order to perpetuate resistance against the United States, we must be more prepared. In this connection, the greatest and most determined force is the powerful and sacred force of velayat-e faqih and the people, and then a strong and powerful government. Hence, weakening any one of these will create despair among the people and is contrary to the interests of the regime and Islam. Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani took over the government of the Islamic Republic when the enemy was at the borders of the country, the implementation of Resolution 598 was delayed due to the impudence of the enemy, the number of the country's experts was reduced, chronic cash flow was excessive, the treasury of the country was depleted, and there was a single-product government and a centralized economy. Borrowing from the banking system made up half the national budget. The correct economic policies of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, within a period of one year, gathered more than 200 billion rials in cash flow channelled towards production and concentration in the banks, and borrowing was reduced from 51 percent to 28.8 percent and the rate of inflation from 20 percent to 8 percent. Exports in the mines and metals sector increased 164 percent and the non-metal mineral sector 398 percent. The economic indices improved for the first time since the revolution, and the growth of production in industry and in the agricultural sector is desirable, at times reaching 360 percent. The developmental budget has increased compared to the current budgets, and the national economic trend, which was governmental and centralized in the previous government, has changed to a proper course. This action has prepared us for the economic balance and health of the country.

In continuation, he pointed out: A government and centralized economy is the 70-year-old bankrupt economy of the Soviet Union. An example of a government economy is the poverty of the Soviet people and the Eastern bloc. Comparing the thriving economy of Japan with the sick economy of the Soviet Union, comparing the economies of East and West Germany (before unification) and the economy of South and North Korea clarifies the issue of the Muslim people of Iran. The Soviet government, on the threshold of reforming and changing its government economy, has faced difficult conditions, and you cannot find anything in its stores. But in this transformation, the government of Mr. Hashemi has been successful, and in our country

the markets are now full of goods. The existing high prices and inflation are due to the government economy and the imposed war, which has resulted in poverty instead of wealth among the people. The government of Mr. Hashemi wants to improve the purchasing power of the people with a correct policy and make the country rich. Until the country becomes rich, economic justice (which was a slogan of ours previously) shall never materialize. Mr. Rahimi emphasized: The policy of modifying the rate of foreign currency and moving towards one rate has blocked the way to many of these injustices, dealings, and large profits. Essentially, in the common economies of the world, including the socialist or capitalist countries, such profits have been unprecedented, and the maximum profit is a few percentages above banking interests. These billions after the revolution and the above-mentioned overnight profits, which were gained in the private, government, and sometimes large cooperative sectors, were the result of the improper policies of the past, which had nothing to do with the rate of profit of the economic institution. Rather, it was only related to the connections between the two related establishments and the distributors of the dollars gained from the sale of oil, and then at the rate of 70 rials, for that matter, which resulted in the decline in quality and losses in the production sector and large profits, and such generosity, which came to an end with the economic policy of the government. Hence, is it not better for both the officials and the representatives of the government to come to the aid of the distinguished personality of the revolution and the old ally of the imam, the honorable leader, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, a personality who is aware of the times and is not vulnerable to transgressions, in order to treat the sick body of the national economy? Is slowing down the wheels of the five-year plan ratified by the Majles, which has changed everything it wanted in it, a revolutionary act and in the interest of the regime? The people of Iran should not listen to election and propaganda speeches and should not be influenced by irrelevant inculcation. To say that the inflation rate is declining merely means that the velocity of high prices has lessened. If our powerful and popular government is able to reduce this growth to 4 or 5 percent by the end of the first plan, we will have to confess that a near miracle has occurred.

He added: In less than a year, the government has achieved significant success, and certainly in the future years it shall succeed in harnessing inflation and high prices.

Mr. Rahimi pointed out: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mr. Rafsanjani, under the directives of the imam of the nation and the grand leader of the revolution, for the first time in the past one or two centuries since the "Arzerum" treaty, brought its political negotiations concerning the orders in accordance with Resolution 598 to fruition and gained a great political victory in connection with the border treaties. In the government of Mr. Hashemi, the 1975 treaty was stabilized and the freed prisoners returned to their Islamic homeland. This is

considered one of the most distinguished historical heights of our foreign policy. In Lebanon, by taking appropriate action, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs succeeded in reconciling the Amal and Hezbollah, and in Afghanistan it unified the disunited Shiite groups and created a united party out of various groups. In establishing relations with other countries without deviating from the principles of the Islamic regime, it has attained great success and today Iran is the center for many consultations and visits of leaders and ministers of other countries.

In conclusion, the representative of the people of Qorveh asked the Majles speaker to put the government proposal in connection with the freed prisoners and solving their problems on the agenda of the Majles. Ratifications

According to a report by RESALAT's parliamentary correspondent, in the open session of the Majles yesterday, a number of other ratifications and amendments proposed by the representatives about the addendum to the 1369 [21 March 1990-20 March 1991] national budget law were examined, discussed, and ratified.

Based on Note Seven of this bill, permission is granted for the surplus national foreign currency collections in regard to the figure of \$17,819 million to be spent on the foreign currency expenditures for reconstruction, the procurement of construction materials, transportation, and the urban natural gas network, upon the ratification of the foreign currency allocation committee.

Based on an attached paragraph, the amount of \$100 million at the official rate shall also be placed at the disposal of the Ministry of Petroleum to procure and purchase pipes and home natural gas connections.

This amount shall be deducted from the foreign currency budget of other organizations, with the exception of the Ministries of Heavy Industries, Industries, and Mines and Metals, and in proportion to the foreign currency budget, the above-mentioned funds shall be considered ratified, and the Central Bank shall be responsible to place it at the disposal of the Ministry of Petroleum.

Based on another amended paragraph, Paragraph Seven of Note 29 of the 1369 national budget law was amended as follows.

In order to achieve the projected investments in the future years of the plan, the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic is permitted to make commitments, up to a ceiling of \$5.4 billion, within the framework of Chart Number Three, Part Two, of this law, so as to make the annual payments in the share of every section in Chart Number Nine of the Five-Year Plan law, in 1370 [21 March 1991-20 March 1992], \$1.2 million [as published]; in 1371 [21 March 1992-20 March 1993], \$1.9 billion; and in 1372 [21 March 1993-20 March 1994], \$2.3 billion.

The payment installments of these documented funds in the related years shall have priority over other needs.

Also, the foreign currency committee was granted permission to take measures up to a maximum of 20 percent in regard to the increase in the lines in Chart Number Three mentioned in Paragraph Seven of Note 29 of the 1969 budget law from the total reduction of other lines cited in the same chart which have been unable to absorb their share by the end of Dey 1369 [20 January 1991]. Based on another proposal, water outreach to cities will be added to the list of Note Seven.

Also, in the bill, the amount of \$100 million is allocated for building rural roads, providing safe drinking water, and rural electricity outreach, and the above-mentioned amount is considered allocated from the date of the ratification.

Based on the ratification of the representatives, the foreign currency allocation committee was made responsible for placing \$30 million in foreign currency from the surplus foreign currency revenues at the disposal of the Ministry of Health, Treatment, and Medical Education

to be spent, under the supervision of the health and welfare committee of the Majles, for the procurement of medical equipment needed by the new medical schools in the deprived areas of the country and teaching hospitals affiliated with them as well as procuring the ambulances needed in the health and treatment centers in the rural areas of the country.

It was also determined in this bill that \$100 million of the total investment expenditures in Chart Number Two of the foreign currency expenditures of the country in Part Two which have not been used be used to provide for the foreign currency needed by the projects of the cooperatives of the self-sacrificers, and the Central Bank shall grant it in accordance with a request by the Ministry of the Interior.

In yesterday's session of the Majles, the credentials of Mr. Yusof Besanjideh, the representative of Kordkuy and Bandar-e Torkaman, were confirmed.